FBIS DAILY REPORT

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CAPUTO ON U.S. THREAT TO CENTRAL AMERICA

PY071935 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0257 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 6 Mar (EFE) -- Argentine Foreign Minister Dante Caputo states in a document, released today at the first seminar-debate on great national issues, that the United States is seriously threatening Central America, particularly Nicaragua. The document, entitled Foreign Policy in Light of the North-South Conflict, says that Reagan's economic policy is causing a serious deterioration of U.S. relations with other countries.

Regarding the Soviet Union, the analysis says that it is a giant of a state comprising several different nations, and that it does not hesitate to trample on the principles it says it defends in order to ensure its world domination, as in the cases of Afghanistan and Poland.

Caputo then refers to the need for integration with the other Latin American countries and for establishing close relations with the Nonaligned Movement in order to create a strong center which can play a role in the relations between the superpowers and their satellites.

The analysis also says that the IMF, and particularly the 10 industrialized countries, should stop putting pressure on the developing countries, and that the IMF should start playing the role it was created for.

The document adds that there should be no oppressors or opressed and that a new international order should be established based on social and ethical concepts. According to the Argentine foreign minister's analysis, this new approach would lead to the formation of regional monetary blocs in each area.

The document adds that the mobilization of the Chilean people, the activities of the Paraguayan opposition, and the new birth of democracy in Brazil and Uruguay, together with Sandinist consolidation in Nicaragua, have changed the situation in Latin America from that of 10 years ago.

In this connection it says that the sovereignty of the people implies that the people living in a country should choose for themselves the model of basic political and economic development which is in accordance with their own characteristics.

CONGRESSMEN SEND MESSAGE TO U.S. ON NICARAGUA

PY071504 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1210 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 7 Mar (NA) -- Fourteen Argentine congressmen belonging to various political parties, among whom are Radical Federico Storani, Peronist Miguel Unamuno, Intransigent Miguel Monserrat, and Christian Democrat Augusto Conte, have told Nicaraguan legislators visiting the country that they have sent a message to the U.S. Congress asking it not to vote for the allotment of "additional funds for the counter-revolutionary forces" fighting Sandinism.

The announcement was made in the Congress yesterday by Deputies Monserrat and Conte to their Nicaraguan counterparts Rafael Solis, secretary of the Nicaraguan Constitutent Assembly, and Herti Levinas, member of the Assembly's Foreign Relations Commission, who visited the Chamber of Deputies accompanied by Nicaraguan Ambassador Edgardo Zambrana.

The 14 Argentine congressmen who signed the request to the U.S. Congress to reject President Ronald Reagan's request for new budget funds for the counterrevolutionaries are, among others, Radicals Antonio Napoli, Ricardo Laferriere, Federico Storani, Victor Marchesini, and Stantiago Lopez. The message was also signed by Peronists Ruben Cardozo, Miguel Unamuno, Oscar Fappiano, Hector Maya, and Florencio Carranza, Intransigents Miguel Monserrat, Raul Rabanaque, and Marcelo Arabolaza, and Christian Democrat Augusto Conte. They said that the assignment of new funds for the so-called "contras" will serve "to kindle still more he flames of the regional conflict," and that if Reagan's position is supported, that "can be interpreted as a virtual act of war" against the Nicaraguan Government.

In turn, the Nicaraguan Solis asserted that "the possibility of a U.S. invasion will be latent if we succeed in defeating the counterrevolution this year, because the United States may find itself tempted to mount an 'armed intervention' against Nicaragua." [as received] Solis stressed that "our greatest concern is the escalation of aggression in the past 2 weeks through statements made by President Reagan, Vice President Bush, and Secretary of State Shultz, who have warned of the possibility of a removal of the Sandinist government."

The Nicaraguan legislator invited the Argentine Congress to "inspect our military installations, because we do not have the number of bases the United States says we have." He also said that "we have frozen the purchases of planes, ordered the withdrawal of Cuban advisers, and resolved the much-publicized case of Costa Rican citizen [as received] Urbina Lara who is now in Colombia." He emphasized that "the seven parties represented in the Nicaraguan Constituent Assembly are discussing the Constitution of the country in order to approve it at the beginning of 1986." He also explained that "there is a dialogue between the government and private business" in order to establish their roles in the economy of the country.

In turn, Conte maintained that "the reports we receive through the international news agencies say that the Christian Popular Party, which obtained seven seats in the legislature, belongs to the patriotic front formed with Sandinism."

AIR FORCE CHIEF NAMED TO HEAD JOINT STAFF

PY072045 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2040 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 7 Mar (TELAM) -- The official spokesman of the Defense Ministry this afternoon reported that Air Force Major General Teodoro Waldner has been named chief of the Joint Staff. Up to today Waldner held the post of chief of the Air Force. Waldner will be replaced by Air Force Brigadier General Ernesto Crespo, the spokesman added.

ARMY CHIEF RIOS ERENU PROPOSES NEW APPOINTMENTS

PY071221 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1018 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 7 Mar (TELAM) -- The newly appointed Army chief of staff, General Hector Rios Erenu, on 6 March submitted to Defense Minister Raul Borras a list of candidates for appointments to high command posts in the Army. The defense minister will review this list today during a meeting with President Raul Alfonsin.

According to accounts published today by the newspapers CLARIN and LA NACION, the commander of the Army yesterday met with Minister Raul Borras in the latter's residence and handed to the minister a folder containing the qualifications of the officers who are proposed to fill the vacant posts in the Army's top echelons. The proposals made by General Rios Erenu, which are subject to possible changes by either Minister Borras or President Alfonsin, include General Mario Sanchez for the post of Army inspector general and General Victor Pino for deputy chief of the Army Joint Staff. General Jorge Eduardo Gorleri might be appointed commander of the II Army Corps in Cordoba, and General Jose Segundo Caridi as commander of the V Army Corps in Bahia Blanca. General Angel Mario Medone would continue to be commander of the IV Army Corps in La Pampa. General Waldo Dasso might be appointed as logistics commander; General Enrique Bonifacino is being proposed as Joint Staff intelligence chief; General Leopoldo Flores as operations chief; General Ernesto Allais as instruction subinspector; and General Jorge Malagamba as deputy chief of the V Army Corps.

Among those proposed by General Rios Erenu there are three colonels who may be promoted to the rank of general. Thus Colonel Julian Perez Dorrego would be appointed as head of the Fourth Office of the Army Joint Staff under the Logistics Departments; Colonel Miguel Abate, who is currently Army secretary general, may be appointed chief of personnel; and Colonel Roberto Atilio Boccalandro may be appointed Army secretary general.

The Defense Ministry may talk today with President Alfonsin about the proposals submitted to him by General Rios Erenu, and they may then proceed to either confirm or make changes in the list of prospects. Today Borras may also meet with the High Command of the Navy to discuss the situation of the Navy and to impart directives for this year's Navy activities.

NAVY ORDERS RETIREMENT OF FOUR REAR ADMIRALS

PY071225 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1104 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 7 Mar (NA) -- Four rear admirals and two Air Force brigadier generals have retired as part of the reshuffling of the military leadership. It has also been reported by official sources that the appointment of the chief of the Joint Staff has been postponed until the reshuffling of senior officers of the three forces is completed in the next few days.

Last night it was confirmed that the Navy General Staff has ordered the replacement of four members of the Admiralty Staff and that the decision has already been relayed to all naval units through a radiogram signed by Navy Chief of Staff Admiral Ramon Arosa. The rear admirals whose retirements have been ordered are: Raul Alberto Marino, deputy chief of the Navy Staff; Jose Julio Sarcona, commander of Naval Operations; Arico Hector Taladriz, commander of the Marine Corps; and Ernesto Diamante, director of the Navy War College. Rear Adm Marino will reportedly be replaced by Rear Adm Maximo Rivero Kelly, secretary general of the Navy; and Rear Adm Sarcona, chief of naval operations, by Rear Adm Omar Baricco.

The new composition of the leadership of the three services will probably be announced today or tomorrow. Then the authorities will decide on the appointment of the new chief of the Joint Staff, the ultimate step in the reorganization of the military leadership. A Defense Ministry source has flatly rejected the possibility of appointing a retired officer as chief of the Joint Staff and reaffirmed that the candidates to this post are Army General Mario Aguado Benitez and Air Force General Teodoro Waldner.

In a terse communique, the Air Force yesterday announced the retirement of Brigadier Generals Ventura and Constanzo. In military circles, these replacements are viewed as an attempt "to compensate" for the replacements that took place in the other two services. There has yet been no information as to who will replace the retiring rear admirals and Air Force brigadier generals.

LT ASTIZ RESUMES DUTY ON AIRCRAFT CARRIER

PY072015 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1624 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 7 Mar (TELAM) -- It has been reported at the Defense Ministry that Navy Lieutenant Alfredo Astiz is on board the aircraft carrier 25 May, flagship of the battle squadron, which is anchored in Port Belgrano, after his release was ordered by the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces. Astiz, who was tried for the disappearance of the Swedish girl Dagmar Hagelin, was acquitted by the military court which found that the double jeopardy rule applied. The Navy officer was tried and acquitted in 1981 by a Navy jury. The officer was released on 4 March by a decision of the Council, and while a new trial is expected before a civilian court by order of the government, he has again taken up his assignment with the crew of the aircraft carrier.

PROTECTIVE CUSTODY CONTINUES FOR FORMER COMMANDERS

PY080005 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 7 Mar 85 p 1

[Text] (NA-DYN-REUTER) -- The Federal Appeals Court ordered five of the nine former Armed Force commanders who are on trial for human rights abuses to continue to be kept under protective custody, considering them to be prima facie "authors or participants" in 94 alleged cases of abduction, torture, and illegal detention which, in some cases, led to murder or disappearance. The five -- linked by the six-member Federal Appeals Court to 94 of the 711 cases filed by Federal Prosecutor Julio Strassera -- are former Presidents and Army commanders Generals Jorge Rafael Videla (32 cases) and Roberto Viola (14), former Navy commanders Admirals Emilion Massera (25) and Armando Lambruschini (15), and former Air Force commander Brigadier General Ramon Agosti (8).

The court ruled that "the violent death of persons, some of whom were officially detained," which are being investigated, "yield a set of circumstances with sufficient elements to attribute the deaths to armed or security forces." It added that given the "notoriously public nature" of the alleged crimes, those abuses "could not have escaped the knowledge of those who exercised maximum government responsiblity" at the time they occurred, for which reason "it is appropriate to qualify their conduct as that of being authors or participants" in the abuses.

According to the Military Justice Code, after questioning the five ex-commanders it corresponded for the Court to rule on their continued protective custody. The other four former junta members had previously been freed for lack of evidence, but their situation could change following Strassera's presentation.

Former Navy commander Admiral Jorge Isaac Anaya denied any reponsibility in the 200 cases he was questioned about yesterday in court. Anaya, along with ex-Air Force commander Brigadier General Basilio Lami Dozo, and former Present and Army commander Leopoldo Fortunato Galtieri are now being held at the disposition of the Armed Forces Supreme Council for the trial involving their role in the Malvinas War. Former Air Force commander Brigadier General Omar Graffigna is the only ex-process junta member not currently under arrest.

PERONIST DEPUTIES OPPOSE NEW PARTY COUNCIL

PY011602 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 1 Mar 85 p 7

[Text] (NA-DYN) -- A majority of 63 Peronist members of the lower house announced last night they would join in opposition to a party national council elected at a congress in Rio Hondo last month and which on Wednesday was declared the only legal party leadership. A statement reportedly signed by a majority of Peronist deputies, including around 15 who had originally backed the Rio Hondo group, said a meeting would be held on Tuesday to elect new authorities "within the framework of unity, above personal ambitions and sectarianism."

Earlier yesterday, a spokesman for a group of 12 deputies, Santa Fe member Luis Sobrino Aranda, said his group supported the council elected at a December congress in the Odeon theatre and did not recognize new authorities of the bloc elected on Wednesday by the Rio Hondo faction. He said he hoped other deputies would join the new group in opposition to the Rio Hondo council. The Rio Hondo faction accepted the resignation of Diego Ibanez of the Odeon faction as president of the bloc and appointed Jose Manzano as first vice-president and acting president of the bloc. Ruben Cardozo was confirmed as second vice-president. The move followed a ruling by electoral Judge Juan Fegoli who recognized the council elected in Rio Hondo as the sole supreme body representative of the party's sovereignty and declared the proceedings at the Odeon theatre congress null and void.

Supporters of the Rio Hondo council in the General Labour Confederation (CGT) also announced they were taking over the so-called 62 Organizations; the labour branch of the Peronist Party led by Lorenzo Miguel, second vice-president of the Odeon theatre council. Meetings were also held by other groups in what appeared to be a desperate bid to avoid a succession of splinter groups. San Luis Governor Adolfo Rodriguez Sa, who so far had been straddling the fence between the two rival factions, said yesterday he would now support the Rio Hondo faction.

Third Faction Formed

PY080010 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 7 Mar 85 p 7

[Text] (NA) -- Five Justicialist Party congressmen yesterday announced the creation of a new lower house bloc supportive of the Odeon congress faction within the party. Made up of Buenos Aires Deputies Carlos Ferre (bloc chairman), Hector Basualdo and Mario Gurioli, and Santa Fe Deputies Luis Sobrino Aranda and Raul Druetta, the new group amounts to a third Peronist bloc in Congress. Though claiming to support the Odeon faction, the five deputies refuse to recognize Deputy Diego Ibanez -- the Odeon congress' choice for bloc chairman -- as their representative. In turn the Odeon faction and the Rio Hondo factions are challenging each other for control of the 111-seat Peronist bloc.

PARAGUAYAN OPPOSITION LEADER LAINO INTERVIEWED

PY071930 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] Domingo Laino, vice president of the Authentic Radical Liberal Party of Paraguay, will try for the third time since he has been exiled to return to his country on Saturday, 9 March. A journalist who was at the Rotunda [not further identified] asked Laino what makes him think that the result of his third attempt to return will be different. Laino replied:

[Begin recording] [Laino] The reasons I wnat to return are, first the calls from my political friends and my family; and second, the present situation. It seems to me that all the southern cone countries are involved in a process of democratization. Why should not the Paraguayans be involved, too? I consider that the place where most can be done for democratization is Paraguay. Much can be done from exile, but the impact of one's work is not so great. On the other hand, I have noticed the presence of outside factors, such as the democratization of Brazil, Uruguay, and Argentina, which are further advanced in the process, and Bolivia, which is entangled in economic and financial problems, but still forging ahead with democratization.

I also see some deterioration in the U.S.-Paraguayan relations, especially over the irksome problem of drug trafficking. A shipment of acetone and other chemicals for processing coca leaves has been seized at Ciudad Presidente Stroessner, on the border with Brazil. The Reagan government has asked tht the chemicals be destroyed, and Stroessner refuses to do so. These questions seem to upset the U.S. State Department.

On the other hand, the European countries, more precisely the EEC, are more aware of the reality of the Paraguayan situation. After the democratization of Brazil and Uruguay, obviously Paraguay and Chile are the focus of attention. This favors a softening of the regime, and I am optimistic about being allowed to return to my country.

[Reporter] It is being said that Argentine politicians are receiving financial assistance from the Stroessner regime in order to destabilize the democratic Argentine Government.

[Laino] I do not have any evidence that Argentine politicians are being financed by the Stroessner regime. But I can tell you that through the press, radio, and even the Paraguayan press that is controlled by the system, I have learned that when Herminio Iglesias visits Paraguay, he is received by Stroessner, and the media plays up the visit with a front-page picture covering half the page; when Deputy Imbellone visits Paraguay, he walks right into Stroessner's office and talks for 1 or more hours, receiving demonstrations of affection and friendliness; when Floro Bogado, governor of Formosa, goes to Paraguay, he is received with pomp; when Chaco Governor Tenev visits Paraguay, he receives the same reception and he has even invited Stroessner to participate in the celebration of Argentine Independence Day, 25 May. So there are connections and easy communications, and this gives grounds for thinking that men who operate under a democratic system and a man who heads a 30-year-old de facto government see eye to eye. Obviously, this reveals inconsistent conduct on the part of the Argentine politicians. [end recording]

COST OF LIVING UP 20.7 PERCENT IN FEBRUARY

PY080016 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 7 Mar 85 p 1

[Text] (DYN) -- The cost of living or consumer price index increased by 20.7 percent during the month of February, and wholesale prices went up by 17.6 percent, according to the National Statistics Institute (INDEC), while construction costs rose another 18.6 percent.

For the first two months of 1985 the cost of living has risen a total 51 percent, and over a 12-month period as from February 1984, prices have increased 803.9 percent. Wholesale prices went up a total of 42.4 percent for the first two months of 1985, and 700.3 percent as from February 1984. Divided by items, increases in February were as follows: medical attention and medicine, 30.3 percent; housing fuel and electricity, 23.4 percent; household goods and furniture, 23.1 percent; transport and communications, 21.2 percent; entertainment and education, 20.4 percent; miscellaneous goods and services, 20.7 percent; food and drink, 19.6 percent; and clothing, 13.5 percent.

SILES MEETING WITH PERUVIAN PRESIDENT POSTPONED

PY071753 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1700 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] The meeting of the Bolivian and Peruvian presidents will not take place. The delicate situation in our country has reportedly caused the Bolivian Foreign Ministry to contact its Peruvian counterpart in order to postpone the meeting between the two presidents.

This information has been disclosed to Radio Panamericana by a source who is very closely linked to the Bolivian Foreign Ministry. Radio Panamericana was told that an official communique will be released in the next few hours.

The announcement, however, has already been made. The delicate situation in the country has led to the postponement of the meeting, which was regarded simply as a protocol meeting. It was also learned that the president greatly regrets not going to the meeting with the Peruvian president, but it was said that the meeting has only been postponed, not canceled.

COB CALLS GENERAL STRIKE IN SUPPORT OF MINEWORKERS

PY072240 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2216 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] La Paz, 7 Mar (EFE) --Labor leader Juan Lechin Oquendo has announced that the Bolivian Labor Federation (COB), which groups all the country's workers, will declare an indefinite general strike.

The strike will be in support of the one being carried out by the mineworkers who went on strike following the failure of negotiations with the government regarding their economic demands.

The announcement was made by Juan Lechin Oquendo, the COB's executive secretary, to a congress of approximately 9,000 mineworkers in La Paz.

Demands Sliding Minimum Wage

PY080210 Paris AFP in Spanish 0139 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Text] La Paz, 7 Mar (AFP) -- A national workers congress that met here today has decreed an indefinite general strike as of tomorrow, Friday, demanding an adjustable minimum wage.

Interior Minister on Strike

PY080240 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Excerpts] Interior Minister Federico Alvarez Plata said that a general strike in the country would bring disastrous results on the Bolivian people and world worsen the shortage of supplies. The minister expressed concern that the type of conflict announced by some unions may have terrible results.

The minister also said that a general strike would have political connotations. This is what Alvarez Plata said:

[Begin recording] Regarding the political consequences of the strike, it is obvious that some union leaders are seeking to overthrow the government. [passage indistinct] They have not seriously considered the results that this plan may have. I believe that what they are planning is to overthrow the truly democratic, nationalist, and revolutionary government in order to hand over the government to the leftists. [end recording]

The minister added that the government of Siles Zuazo considers the proposal of some unions to replace the government with one of workers and peasants as not being genuine.

[Begin Alvarez recording] [passage indistinct] The state of siege is a measure that can prevent the provocations from some sectors [passage indistinct]. [end recording]

As you heard, Interior Minister Federico Alvarez Plata said that the imposition of the state of seige in the country cannot be discarded.

Strike Declared Illegal

PY080255 Paris AFP in Spanish 0232 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Text] La Paz, 7 Mar (AFP) -- The general and indefinite strike ordered by the COB against the government was declared illegal by Information Minister Mario Rueda Pena, who labeled the strike as a destabilizing measure against the democratic process.

The minister emphasized that when the strike was ordered the union leaders became responsible for the end of liberties and rights because the strike obstructs the laws and the Constitution which guarantee social peace and state security.

Rueda Pena said that President Hernan Siles Zuazo is closely following the development of the situation and is holding meetings with his aides and ministers.

National Defense Minister Manuel Cardenas Mallo said that the high military command has decided to support the democratic government and will be alert to disband any attempt at provocation.

INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS RESTORED

PY072230 Paris AFP in Spanish 2121 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Excerpt] La Paz, 7 Mar (AFP) -- It was confirmed here this afternoon that after 20 hours without any communication between Bolivia and the outside world, the international press lines of communication have been restored by standby personnel of the National Telecommunications Company (ENTEL).

After talks with the ENTEL union and with the authorities, the Association of International Press Journalists was able to reestablish contact with the world within the framework of the serious social and economic crisis that Bolivia is experiencing due to a general indefinite strike being carried out by several sectors of the working class.

PINOCHET ADDRESSES NATION ON EARTHQUAKE

PY080220 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 0035 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Address to the nation by President Augusto Pinochet, from Santiago -- live]

[Excerpts] Fellow Chileans: Last Sunday, we Chileans had to confront the effects of a devastating earthquake that affected the central region of the country. Even though it has as yet been impossible to establish the cost of the damage, we are able to assert that we are confronting a catastrophe that will oblige us to make great sacrifice and to concentrate our efforts on recovery.

I have personally visited those places that were most damaged by the earthquake and witnessed the hardships and urgent needs of our fellow citizens in several areas.

From the very beginning, the information received enabled us to make the proper decisions for resolving the difficulties the people were experiencing as a result of the earthquake, in keeping with the prerequisites established for these cases. All available resources were used to meet urgent needs, such as housing, food, and health care through the adoption of emergency solutions in the more devastated areas.

To do this, we have increased the powers of pertinent authorities by declaring disaster areas in the metropolitan area, the Fifth Region, the Sixth Region, and Curico Province. Moreover, we have delegated the coordination and planning of the many actions to be implemented to the interior minister.

In addition the government, the central administration, and the regional administrations have proceeded to precisely evaluate the damage, since this is indispensable in reallocating government resources, programs, and development projects.

In this regard, I have instructed the finance minister that the talks he is scheduled to hold in the next few days with representatives from the international financing and banking sectors should take into account the situation affecting the country in the negotiations that are being carried out with these organizations.

The great reconstruction task we have begun seeks mainly the infrastructural recovery of the housing, sanitation, port, and educational sectors. This task will demand the redistribution of ordinary and special resources, the creation of several emergency solutions, the development of some programs, and the postponement of others. But above all, this reconstruction task requires the solidaristic unity of all Chileans for a common objective, which is to recover normal living conditions and development for the entire nation, and especially for our fellow citizens who have been most affected by this tragedy.

The selfishness of some unscrupulous persons who seek to take advantage of the misfortune of others, and the attitude of those who insist on committing terrorist actions, or groundlessly criticize all measures adopted, contrast with the spirit of solidarity expressed by several friendly countries and the position of mutual aid demonstrated by all Chileans.

Fellow citizens, the scope of the new challenge we are facing today demands that we all unite our efforts and contribute to the plans to be implemented by the government without losing hope. I want to extend my sincere appreciation to all my fellow citizens, and especially to those who have generously contributed, and have joined this task to which we are all committed.

The spirit of common effort will allow us to overcome in this most difficult time the inevitable deprivation we must face. But at the end of this journey we will say with sound patriotic pride that once again we have fulfilled our obligations to Chile. Let us, therefore, keep our faith in God, and faith in the destiny of our fatherland. Good night.

INTERIOR MINISTER REPORTS ON QUAKE DAMAGE

PY071335 Santiago Radio Chilena in Spanish 2200 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] Interior Minister Ricardo Garcia has reported that more than 200,000 people have been affected by the earthquake and that more than 60,000 houses have been damaged. During a press conference he granted a short while ago, he provided an overall view of the situation following the calamity that hit Chile last Sunday.

The minister asserted that the country's situation is extremely grave because the seismic movement affected almost 1,000 km of the nation's territory. Minister Garcia said that it is quite difficult to properly evaluate the repercussions of the tragedy, with more than 200,000 people and more than 60,000 houses affected in various ways, and 20,000 houses totally destroyed. He also said that many school buildings are being used as shelters and that nearly 20 hospitals have been seriously damaged.

The interior minister also pointed out that roads and highways, sanitation facilities, and public and private buildings have sustained major damage. He anticipated that a full report on the damage caused by the earthquake should be completed by the end of this week.

After outlining the situation following the seismic movement, the interior minister announced that his ministry has set up a general emergency office headed by an expert, noting that the country is now going through a period of normalization, especially regarding electricity and water supply, and food and shelter provisions. He also announced that three ministers will immediately start a tour of the affected areas to collect information on the emergency program being implemented. The mines and energy minister will tour the Fourth and Fifth Regions, the agriculture minister the Sixth and Seventh Regions, and the National Planning Office head the areas of San Antonio and (Veripilla) in the metropolitan region.

Interior Minister Ricardo Garcia added that projects for a second stage of damage repair are already being planned and expressed recognition for the cooperation of the citizenry and of foreign countries. Finally, he expressed his conviction that as they did after similar catastrophes, the people of Chile will muster their energies and rebuild the country.

FURTHER ON DOMINICAN REPUBLIC PRESIDENT'S VISIT

Betancur Speaks at Banquet

PA070307 Paris AFP in Spanish 0243 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] Bogota, 5 Mar (AFP) -- President Belisario Betancur made a strong appeal for the unity of Latin America in general, particularly Colombia and the Dominican Republic, during a banquet given here tonight in honor of Salvador Jorge Blanco, president of the Dominican Republic.

During the reception President Betancur decorated President Salvador Jorge Blanco with the Great Collar of the Order of Boyaca, the highest decoration granted by Colombia to foreign heads of state.

After referring to the historic links that have existed between their countries since America's discovery, President Betancur said: "At the end of the 20th century, the battlefields are no longer the oceans and ports attacked by pirates. The situation is now a confrontation between North and South, East and West. We are the witnesses to a belligerent clash between polarized power forces. On this occasion, we are participating in efforts to reconcile these two forces and it is up to us to obtain the balance that can make this world more just and more prosperous."

Further on, he said: "The economic problem has seriously hurt our economies. The rigor of colonialism, the ruthless system of an unjust international work distribution, and the abuse of power is keeping us in the vicious circle of inflation and unemployment."

"The big powers' confrontation, the conflict between inhuman ideologies, and the commercialization of death are casting a dark outlook for Central America, the most martyrized region on our continent. The big powers are trying to make the region the field on which they will define their supremacy. Meanwhile, they feel that we should unconditionally align with one of them. It makes no difference to them that we have our own commitment," President Betancur said.

"These commitments," he added, "are based on the principles of self-respect and self-determination. This is the philosophy and policy that the Contadora Group is promoting in order to obtain peace in freedom and progress in a democracy that is vigilant."

"It is time for Latin American countries from the Rio Bravo to the Patagonia to establish solid spiritual bonds among themselves because we have come of age to assert our personality without having to assume either a bragging or challenging attitude."

"We want the Contadora Group to set an example of understanding, rationalization, and realism. We want it to be a lesson of respect for self-determination, concern for man's economy, and preservation of the most valuable resource we have: our peoples' existence," President Betancur said.

"As long as we can maintain this line of conduct, we will decrease the threat of war, of a catastrophe without solution," President Betancur indicated.

"We want to permanently work in peace and in a responsible manner, but this we do not want and cannot do alone. In this historic moment we must see that Simon Bolivar's dream, which is to form a league of Latin American nations, comes true," President Betancur said.

"The Dominican Republic and Colombia," he said, "are walking together along paths that will build our peoples' spiritual values."

"They are also struggling to put an end to the discriminatory treatment the poor nations are receiving from the rich countries. We also want the international exchange terms to be more just and for the conditions of our monetary obligations not to have the price of our peoples' survival."

Betancur mentioned the agreements that the two nations have in many other fields which can be factors for progress and not mere formalism: cultural exchange, economic and technological cooperation, increased tourism, the demarcation of surface and submarine areas, maritime cooperation, and narcotics control.

Starting that 6 years from now we will be celebrating the 500th anniversary of Colombus' discovery of America and that the Dominican Republic and Colombia share the ideals advocated by Nunez de Caceres, Duarte, Narino, and Bolivar, President Betancur concluded: "Those ideals are about to come true; the American utopia can be a reality."

Joint Declaration Signed

PA070325 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Report by Fabio Calleja Ramirez]

[Text] Belisario Betancur, president of Colombia, and Salvador Jorge Blanco, president of the Dominican Republic, signed a joint declaration on President Jorge's visit to Colombia a few moments ago. In the joint declaration the presidents expressed their concern over the increase in drug trafficking and the consumption of drugs, and the need for greater international cooperation to face this serious problem. Another important issue was the agreement reached between the two countries for Colombia to sell the Dominican Republic 300,000 tons of coal annually for the next 3 years at a total cost of $40 million.

In summarizing the agreements reached with President Belisario Betancur, Salvador Jorge Blanco, president of the Dominican Republic, said:

[Begin recording] The declaration contains three fundamental aspects: one part deals with bilateral relations between the Dominican Republic and Colombia in the technological and cultural aspects. It also contains a decision by President Betancur that places him and Colombia at the vanguard of understanding what countries with better resources can do on behalf of those less favored by nature, as is the specific case regarding the coal and gas for the Dominican Republic, which is desperately seeking new ways to diminish heavy imports. [end recording]

While Colombia will sell coal to the Dominican Republic, Colombia will buy tons of fertilizers from the Dominican Republic.

The two presidents expressed their concern over the international economic crisis that is affecting developing countries, especially the Latin American countries, due to the high interest rates for foreign debt. They also reiterated that this problem goes beyond the financial realm and that the governments of creditor and debtor countries, international banks, and multinational financial organizations are responsible for the situation.

In a few minutes President Jorge will host a dinner for President Betancur at the Red Room of the Tequendama Hotel.

At 0930 tomorrow, President Jorge will leave for Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.

Jorge Departs

PA072102 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1756 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] Bogota -- The Dominican Republic Government has described the meeting between Presidents Salvador Jorge Blanco and Belisario Betancur as very productive and fruitful. Dominican Republic Foreign Minister Jose Augusto Veiga said that the meeting was particularly important because the two leaders reaffirmed common goals on cooperation and peace. The Colombian Government will extend a $40-million credit over the next 3 years to the Dominican Republic to purchase Colombian coal.

President Salvador Jorge Blanco left Bogota at approximately 0930. President Betancur and ranking members of his administration saw him off at the airport.

GUATEMALAN HEAD OF STATE MEJIA ARRIVES IN BOGOTA

PA072012 Paris AFP in Spanish 1839 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] Bogota, 7 Mar (AFP) -- Guatemalan Head of State General Oscar Mejia Victores arrived in Bogota today at 1820 GMT on a 2-day visit to Colombia at the invitation of President Belisario Betancur.

Mejia Victores, who was accompanied by Foreign Minister Fernando Andrade, was welcomed at the Catam Military Airport by President Betancur and members of his cabinet. The Central American leader, who arrived in Bogota from Ecuador, was welcomed by the Colombian presidential guard with a 21-gun salute and military honors in keeping with his rank.

Mejia Victores will be in Bogota until Friday afternoon. The Guatemalan head of state arrived in Colombia 3 hours after Salvador Jorge Blanco, the resident of the Dominican Republic, had ended a 40-hour visit.

LABOR LEADERS OPPOSE GUERRILLAS IN TRADE UNIONS

PA041927 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 4 Mar 85

[By Julio Suarez]

[Text] Bogota -- Labor union leaders are categorically opposed to the presence of guerrillas in the labor movement and have so stated in the wake of Defense Minister General Miguel Vega Uribe statements on the emergence of a new form of armed labor unions.

Jorge Carrillo of the Union of Colombian Workers, Ramon Marquez of the Confederation of Colombian Workers, and Gustavo Osorio of the Trade Union Confederation of Colombian Workers agreed that the minister is exaggerating by generalizing an isolated incident. They are the first ones to reject claims of deviating from the spirit of labor as a result of the presence of terrorists.

Mr Jorge Carrillo made a call via CARACOL Network to all guerrillas to respect the labor unions because the guerrillas' presence does not help the workers. Quite the contrary, it brings about government measures against union members that are not beneficial to them.

Ramon Marquez said: We are not an arm of the guerrillas. We cannot allow the guerrillas to seize the labor unions because such a thing does not benefit the labor movement. It does not reflect the institutional reality of the unions or the peace process.

Meanwhile, Gustavo Osorio, of the Socialist Confederation, said that the guerrilla movement and the labor movement are two different things. Therefore, we oppose the presence of terrorists among our ranks.

PEASANTS SEIZE BUILDING IN BARRANCABERMEJA

PA051819 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] Barrancabermeja -- A difficult situation is currently being experienced in this oil port, where some 200 people, mostly peasants, have occupied the municipal council building to demand solutions to their countless problems.

It has been learned that the peasants' demands include a proposal to remove the naval base from the Magdalena area due to the rigorous measures to which they are subjected at military checkpoints, controls on food, and the open slaughtering of animals. According to several of the peasants, ever since the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia column ambushed a naval fleet near this oil port, killing three infantrymen and injuring two others, measures have been carried out to the extreme and frequently they have been deprived of the food carried either from the rural areas to the city or vice versa.

The authorities have adopted security measures in Barrancabermeja to prevent public disturbances following the seizure of the municipal council building.

BRIEFS

COFFEE PLAGUE -- Javier Correa, president of the Valle Department coffee growers association, reports that this year's coffee harvest, which will begin next week, will be considerably smaller as a result of coffee rust. He reported that the plague continues to spread across plantations. Valle's harvest goal is 9 million arrobas, 10 percent of the nation's total production. [Summary] [Bogota Cadena Radio Super in Spanish 1730 GMT 3 Mar 85 PA]

TAIWAN VICE PRESIDENT LEE ARRIVES FOR VISIT

PY061404 Asuncion PATRIA in Spanish 6 Mar 85 p 1

[Excerpt] Taiwanese Vice President Lee Teng-hui arrived in our country on a friendly visit yesterday at 1900. Lee, who arrived at the head of an entourage of Taiwanese officials, is visiting our country at the invitation of President Alfredo Stroessner.

MASS ORGANIZED FOR DETAINEES, MISSING PERSONS

PY071443 Paris AFP in Spanish 0426 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] Asuncion, 6 Mar (AFP) -- The self-styled Permanent Commission of Relatives of Missing and Murdered Persons of Paraguay will sponsor a mass for all persons who are detained and missing or were killed for political or union-related reasons. The official radio station has already described this mass as subversive.

Asuncion Archbishop Msgr Anibal Rolon will say the mass at the Metropolitan Cathedral on Friday afternoon, 8 March, according to Agapita de Gutierrez and Regina de Rodas, coordinators of the commission.

Msgr Rolon, the highest Catholic Church official in Paraguay, is openly opposed to the government of President Alfredo Stroessner.

This is the first official announcement related to this commission and this type of activity.

Through its radio program, The Voice of the Coloradismo, the ruling Colorado Party has described the scheduled mass as subversive. This mass, the Colorado Party said, is part of a subversive timetable designed to destabilize the government and to create chaos and anarchy.

Colorado Party Denounces Mass

PY071840 Asuncion Domestic Service in Spanish 2330 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] Just by chance, we came upon a note in which a self-styled Permanent Commission of Relatives of Missing and Murdered Persons will hold a press conference, and, quote, will invite all the country's democratic citizenry to a mass to be said next Friday to pray for the reappearance of those who have been detained and who then disappeared and to pray for the dead politicians and labor leaders, unquote. This is taking place in Paraguay, but as far as we know, neither this commission nor any similar commission has obtained legal recognition. Lacking legal recognition, this is nothing but a clandestine organization which is operating in Paraguay with unknown goals. However, its pretended political character is similar to the Mothers of Plaza de Mayo in Argentina, which is manipulated by the communists and has no other purpose but subverting public order and tranquillity.

The note sent to the communications media is signed by widows Regina Rodas and Agapita Gutierrez, as coordinators. They were perhaps forced to sign by the dark figures who hide behind these plots of a typically leftist cast or perhaps they choose to sign since they may be members of leftist groups that call themselves democratic and that resort to any trick to draw the attention of the public then stir up its feelings.

A strange thing that is difficult to explain is how and why the church should lend itself to the tendentious maneuvers of elements who are committed to the leftist, subversive conspiracy which is always trying to surface disguised as democratic movements. The priests of the parish where the mass will be said are unaware of two things: First, one must be suspicious of this type of pseudodemocratic organization, which is handled by communists behind the scenes, because we know that their objectives are anarchy and subversion; second, the groups of relatives of those who have disappeared or have been assassinated because of their involvement in political or union activities can be found in Cuba, Nicaragua, and in some other country, but never in Paraguay, where such groups cannot exist simply because such cases have not occurred in Paraguay in the past 30 years. If they ever occurred, these cases took place during the barbarian period of political anarchy under the 40 years of dictatorship by the Liberals who betrayed their country. This dark period has happily been left behind by the democratic and nationalist government of the Colorado Party.

We are attesting to one more subversive maneuver by the totalitarian Bolsheviks who, taking advantage of the gullibility of a pious priest, are asking that a mass be said for fictitious missing and assassinated political prisoners. This is an effort of imagination not rare for the communists, who have always been disrespectful and disconsiderate toward the church, which they want to use as springboard or as a pretext in their attempt to take power by unleashing violence and anarchy from these churches.

As sincere Christian believers, we are respectful of our holy Catholic Church, but we are not going to believe or accept that some priests can let themselves be duped by criminal elements who want to stand as the redeemers of the peasants, workers, and students. We sincerely assume that the church has been surprised in its good faith by those false leaders of democracy resembling the false beggars at the entrance of the churches who ask for alms for the love of God but who are vulgar exploiters of the religious faith and charity of the Catholic faithful.

We admit that these priests let themselves be deceived by the false beggars, but we cannot admit that they allow themselves to be duped by those who can, at any time, turn into assassins of the priests. These are the atheistic and bloodthirsty communists, and playing into their hands is a little bit too much, or it seems to amount to complicity that cannot be forgiven by God or by the people. While some try to destroy their peace and well-being by having a mass said for supposedly missing and assassinated persons, the people struggle and work for peace, progress, and democracy to continue ruling for many years in our beloved and glorious Paraguay.

On the other hand, it would be useful for the appropriate authorities try to find out who are behind these organizations, such as the permanent commission in question, that surreptitiously is trying to heat up a climate of anarchy and disorder with the sole intention of adding grist to the mill of the atheistic, bloodthirsty communism that has no national allegiance.

Do our listeners remember their policy of provoking the government. Well, this is a typical act of that policy.

BRIEFS

PAKISTANI AMBASSADOR PRESENTS CREDENTIALS -- Syed Murad Ahmad Khairi, the new ambassador from the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, presented his credentials to President Stroessner on 22 February. He is also concurrent ambassador to Brazil. [Summary] [Asuncion EL DIARIO in Spanish 23 Feb 85 p 9 PY]

APRA PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE TO VISIT BRAZIL

PY080210 Paris AFP in Spanish 0021 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Text] Lima, 7 Mar (AFP) -- Alan Garcia, American Popular Revolutionary Alliance [APRA] candidate for the presidency who is the favorite to win the April general elections, will leave tomorrow, 8 March, for Brazil to hold meetings with Brazilian politicians and attend the inauguration of President-elect Tancredo Neves.

Garcia, who is 35 years old, will be accompanied by several leaders of his party, has social democratic leanings, and intends to hold meetings with leaders of the neighboring nation seeking to reach agreements that could be signed in the future in case the ballot boxes confirm the polls.

FISHERIES MINISTER ON CONTRACTS WITH USSR

PY071950 Lima Cadena Panamericana Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] With regard to the review of the fishing contracts with the Soviet Union, Fisheries Minister Ismael Benavides has reported that the Peruvian Foreign Ministry is currently drawing up the strategy to be implemented.

Benavides stated that his ministry has already asked the Soviet representative for a report on the number of ships, personnel, and the size of the catch in order to assess their activities.

[Begin recording] [Reporter] What can you tell in advance on the review of the contracts with the Soviet Union?

[Benavides] At this time, drawing up the strategy to be implemented still lies with the Foreign Ministry. As far as we are concerned, we have already asked the representative of the Soviet Union for a report on the number of ships, personnel, and the size of the current catch and, (?let's) say, all the necessary elements to assess their activities. Thus far we have not received this information and we expect that, due to the seriousness of fulfilling the international commitments, this information will be forwarded to us as soon as possible. [end recording]

AP Senator on Possible Agreement

PY080030 Lima Cadena America Television in Spanish 0330 6 Mar 85

[Interview with Popular Action [AP] Senator Jaime Cheneffusse, chairman of the Senate Fishing and Hunting Commission and of the Senate National Defense Commission, by unidentified reporter during an AP rally held in Callao]

[Text] [Reporter] Senator, recently people have been talking about the possible renewal of a fishing agreement signed in 1971 with the USSR Government. It is also being said that some abuses are being made in this regard. Could you give us a more clear picture on this situation?

[Cheneffusse] By all means. I have available some information supplied to me by the Peruvian Fishing Ministry. Peru and the Soviet Union signed a 10-year fishing agreement in 1971 during the military administration of General Velazco.

At the time, the Russians had negotiated the use of a fishing base in Paita. This base, which was mainly built on the basis of a Soviet loan, has just been finished and it can store a large amount of fish.

The agreement established that in view of the loan that had been extended to Peru by the Soviets, Russian ships were authorized to use Peruvian ports, including the Callao port.

This 10-year agreement expired in 1981. In 1981 it was extended for 3 additional years until 1984. In 1984, we extended it for 2 more years, which means the agreement expires in 1986.

But (?the issue in question) is that we do not know how many Russian ships, which according to them are outside the 200 mile limit, are fishing in the area. The Fishing Ministry estimates that there are about 200 ships fishing in that area. We are talking about large-capacity ships, these are [word indistinct] ships. The crew, which is rotated every 90 days, ranges from 30,000 to 40,000 Russian fishermen. Therefore, we virtually have a complete Russian fleet and Russian Army here in Peru.

What we want to specify in the agreement is how long this agreement will be in effect, the procedures to be followed, and to establish whether or not this agreement is harmful for Peru.

I personally believe that this agreement is harmful for Peru because the Russians are plundering Peruvian seas. In addition, as a result of these loans and Soviet aid, the USSR and Peru have achieved a government-to-government agreement through which Sovryflot, that is, part of the Soviet fleet that is outside the 200-mile limit, which no one controls since it would be very costly for Peru to do so, and (?PECEP), which is a state-owned company, have agreed to distribute fish through what I would call two pseudo-Peruvian companies. I say this since the Russians have stocks in these two companies. These two companies, which are named Mercurio and the other Pacifico, operating with about 20 ships inside the 200-mile limit. They take 92 percent of fishing products while Peru is left with the other 8 percent.

According to Peruvian maritime experts, the biomass in Peru, which is one of the richest areas in the world, totals 2.5 million tones. The two Russian companies are each fishing about 200,000 tons per year and the few Peruvian ships that are in the area are fishing about 150,000 tons per year. This means that we are fishing more than 550,000 tons per year.

But Peru is receiving this 8 percent of fishing products at no cost whatsoever and this product is being distributed in local markets at very low costs to Peruvians, who in addition to experiencing an economic crisis are also experiencing a nutrition crisis.

Therefore as a result of a loan to build a fishing port in Paita, the Russians were authorized to use the Callao port and other ports for their fishing boats operating in the South Pacific.

SANGUINETTI DISCUSSES AMNESTY ISSUE, STRIKES

PY071532 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0000 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] President Julio Maria Sanguinetti, speaking over national radio and television, said that we do not wish for prisoners to end up as political hostages, or for a law which fails to condemn violence. The president regretted the treatment given to amnesty by Congress, stating that he still believes a generous amnesty is needed. He also referred to labor problems, saying that a strike is an extreme response to the lack of understanding and that a strike must not serve as a simple expression of protest. Regarding amnesty, President Sanguinetti said:

[Begin recording] The debate in Congress centered on amnesty and Congress voted for a bill different from the one submitted by the executive branch which, unfortunately, was not even worthy of study. We regret that this subject was treated in this way [words indistinct].

Our position is still the same. We have not changed; what we say today is the same as what we said yesterday. We believe that the country needs a generous amnesty, but a moral differentiation should be made between political prisoners and those who have committed murder. We have said this, we repeat it, and said it in the national pacification bill we sent to Congress on 1 March. In the bill, in addition to dealing with amnesty, we ratified the Costa Rica human rights convention; we eliminated the [word indistinct] security measures from all criminal trials; we established a repatriation commission; and took other measures to facilitate pacification. At the same time, we are lifting, or have lifted, all prohibitions affecting parties, cultural entities, and the press. We have pardoned, thus closing those cases of citizens who were being tried by the military court for political reasons. We have lifted restrictions on entry to or exit from the country. We have submitted a bill which orders that a person should be attended by a lawyer as soon as he is detained. Measures have already been taken to close the Punta de Rieles Prison and transfer the women imprisoned there to the central penitentiary to give them more guarantees.

Considering our conciliatory attitude, we are hurt, mostly on behalf of the country, by the fact that our bill has not even been debated, that a solution is high-handedly imposed, but not approved by the government and large sections of the population. We deeply respect the decisions made by Congress, but Congress should also respect the decisions of the executive branch. (?Let us avoid) this type of [word indistinct] because it unnecessarily delays a question which can be promptly solved. To this end, we again repeat that we wish to continue seeking solutions.

In this connection, we have asked Education Minister Reta to seek with lawyers of other parties a conciliatory solution. We wish to find honorable solutions and, above all, we do not wish the prisoners to end up as political hostages. We also do not wish a legal solution which fails to condemn violence. We appeal once more to the patriotic spirit of the leaders of all groups of society. The country cannot blunder into political confrontations when it needs a free and unified effort to face an economic crisis which is more severe than any in the past.

We also urge the striking state employees to reconsider their position. We deeply respect the right to strike, but we also respect, and continue to respect, our obligation to maintain services which are vitally important to the population, who are harmed by the stoppages. A strike is an extreme response to a lack of understanding; it should not serve as a simple expression of protest, particularly when it hampers public services and when there has not even been time to begin a study of the situation. The country should be above all sectorial interests.

The government will make every effort, but no one can ignore that the state has a deficit and enormous needs, which cannot be solved overnight. In any case, the situation will become even more serious.

My friends, we are taking the first steps of democracy. As I said last Friday in the Assembly, now we have our chance, and the responsibility is ours. The government will do everything within its power, but an effort by all is necessary. Without that collective effort, nothing can be done. With that effort, even amid so many needs and problems, we will be able to progress. [end recording]

DEFENSE MINISTER ON ROLE OF INTELLIGENCE SERVICES

PY080150 Montevideo EL DIA in Spanish 23 Feb-1 Mar 85 p 6

[Interview with Defense Minister-designate D. Juan Vicente Chiarino by unidentified reporter, at Pocitos Beach -- date not given]

[Excerpts] "According to reports I have at hand, there are an excessive number of offices devoted to intelligence gathering, and it will be appropriate to change this situation in accordance with the needs of the ministry and of the country, Dr Juan Vicente Chiarino, defense minister-designate [sworn in on 1 March] told EL DIA's La Semana supplement. In an interview on Thursday [as published] in his La Rambla apartment, facing Pocitos Beach, Chiarino outlined his ideas on the role of military intelligence service and the rules by which it must abide under his administration.

Before going into the subject, Dr Chiarino excused himself for being brief, and explained that "I am not yet fully aware of the entire organization, and much less of the national Defense Ministry. I am trying to acquaint myself with the personnel under my supervision, but I am not yet fully acquainted with everything."

"As I understand, but do not take this as an official statement, each branch has its own intelligence service and there exists a joint Armed Forces intelligence service; but the ministry does not have one. If this is so, it is an abnormal situation," Chiarino stated.

Chiarino admitted the importance of the subject, because during the past few years, after the end of open repression, spying on citizens has become one of the most irritating elements. "Irritating and offensive," Chiarino added.

"There was exuberance in investigating individuals' private lives, always trying to put a political label on someone," Chiarino stated.

He declined to give a concrete answer when he was asked what will happen to current political records. "I know nothing aobut that, and one of my tasks will be to acquaint myself with many things, and then try to solve them. Some questions I can answer, others I cannot," he excused himself. "I have no definite plans."

"The Defense Ministry must collect and maintain information on the possibility of a foreign attack. Domestically, in cases of national security," Chiarino added, "we must discover the possible danger of some element that may jeopardize national order through violence or unconstitutional or illegal actions. Intelligence work must be carried out within reasonable limits, within the range and limitations we have mentioned, strictly respecting the privacy of persons."

Explaining further that the task is to prevent crimes, he stated that many cases will fall within the jurisdiction of the police. He then added: "Defense and interior are two ministries with shared responsibilities, and the functions of each must be very well delineated. Conflicts of jurisdiction between the two ministries must be avoided," he added. "But of course with Dr Marini [current interior minister] we are going to get along very well."

In sum, the minister-designate reaffirmed that "my first task will be to acquaint myself with the entire organization of the ministry."

"Intelligence activities and any unrestrained activity by the Armed Forces must be restricted. They must be reduced gradually to adjust to the country's real needs."

"Some one will probably tell me," Chiarino stated, "that there must be an intelligence service for each branch, and that there must be another for the three branches together. That is the ideal, but at this moment everything must be adjusted to reality, and we surely will reduce these activities gradually."

GOVERNMENT DROPS CHARGES; EXILES FREE TO RETURN

PY071458 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0331 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] Montevideo, 6 Mar (EFE) -- The Uruguayan Government today issued a decree stating that all Uruguayan exiles wanted by military courts are free to return to the country. The decree states that all civilian exiles in this category are free to return to the country unconditionally, since military courts have no jurisdiction to bring civilians to trial in time of peace.

BUSINESSMEN DISCUSS COCINA ACTIONS, NEW TAXES

PA071444 Panama City EL SIGLO in Spanish 4 Mar 85 p 24

[Report by Manuel E. Santos]

[Text] Chorrera -- The National Federation of Chambers of Commerce, Industries, and Agriculture of Panama failed to reach agreement to support actions of civil disobedience being planned by the Coordinating Board for National Civilianization [Cocina].

During the meeting, which was held at the clubhouse of the Spanish Society in Chorrera, Ruben Dario Carles made revealing statements about the government's fiscal policy, reporting that 40 percent of the new taxes are already committed to the IMF to repay the foreign debt. The existence of a "35-point document to break up the Torrijist movement" was also revealed.

Another guest speaker, Ruben Endara of the Panamenist Party, also made interesting revelations, including that Arnulfo Arieas and Carlos Rodriguez have secured the support of five U.S. banks that are willing to refinance our foreign debt.

Also discussed the meeting was the pssibility of eliminating the Price Control Office, subsidies for corn, rice, and sorghum. Participants agreed to ask President Ardito Barletta to explain how the debt will be financed "given the fact that the budget lists more expenditures than income."

INDUSTRIALISTS UNION OPPOSES NEW TAX PROPOSALS

PA071457 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 26 Feb 85 p 11 A

[Open letter from the Panamanian Industrialists Union, SIP, to Jerry Wilson, president of the Panamanian Legislative Assembly; date and place not given]

[Text] Mr President: As the decisive moment when the Legislative Assembly will rule on the tax package proposed by the executive branch and currently being analyzed by the Legislative Commmittee for Treasury, Planning, and Economic Policy draws near, the SIP considers this a proper time to reiterate that it completely objects to creating new taxes or increasing present ones because this will cause further economic recession, discourage investment, and aggravate the unemployment problem.

Therefore, we are confident that the distinguished member of the Legislative Assembly, in loyal response to their constituents' mandate and that of all the Panamanian people, will reject the tax package and replace it with economic measures designed to promote the country's economic recovery, essential to overcoming the current economic crisis. This crisis has been disregarded in favor of resolving an apparent fiscal crisis which is transitory and can be resolved in a short time by implementing a healthy administrative policy.

We take this opportunity to advise you that within the next few days the SIP will submit to the national government and the community a proposal for an economic policy that includes the necessary elements to develop our sector to its fullest potential and contribute to economic recovery and thus to resolving the economic and fiscal crises without unnecessarily burdening taxpayers.

Sincerely yours,

[Signed] George Richa, SIP president

MOLIRENA REITERATES REJECTION OF NEW TAXES

PA071759 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 26 Feb 85 p 15

[Statement issued by Nationalist Liberal Republican Movement, Molirena in Panama City; date not given]

[Text] The fiscal problem shows the inconsistencies and vices of the government imposed since 1968. For the first time in 16 years the public has had a chance to learn how state resources are spent. The intervention of the legislative branch in the approval of the budget has permitted the questioning of many prevalent financial policies and practices. The errors in the economic and fiscal policy that have led the country to economic stagnation, a drop in production and investments, as well as an increase in unemployment within an increasing and unjustified public expenditure, a chronic deficit, and a large debt have been confirmed.

The administration, overwhelmed by the burden of a public debt that absorbs a high percentage of the state's current revenues, intends to continue increasing operating expenses. Such a policy forces the country to negotiate refinancing part of a public debt, which the men of the revolutionary process created and accumulated without the country receiving the real benefits, because these funds were used in unproductive projects or were simply squandered.

Now, to meet the apparent creditors' demands, the government is trying to impose a budget with fictitious revenues and padded expenses to create new taxes and increase existing ones. There has been no serious effort to adjust the budget to reality. The revenues do not represent the country's true tax potential and the expenses do not take into consideration the people's true needs.

Since no real effort has been made to reduce unnecessary and unproductive expenditures, the government payroll continues to be high, nurturing an excessive bureaucracy full of personnel without any duties. The central government as well as decentralized agencies adn state enterprises have disbursements, subsidies, and losses that resulted only from politically inclined actions. They have made the state a mechanism for spending without considering sources for the needed taxes. Duties of certain public agencies have been distorted and they have assumed tasks and expenses that do not correspond. The military forces' budget is not in line with the country's fiscal capabilities. We must immediately take the task of defining the Defense Forces' true functions in maintaining public order and defending the country. If this is not defined, the Defense Forces will continue growing beyond reasonable limits and absorb an increasingly higher share of the national budget. All of this is detrimental to the already poor public services that the state must provide.

Before resorting to new taxes, the government must first weigh all other alternatives to balance the budget. Continuity of the old system makes adoption of measures for a more healthy fiscal policy impossible. The country has not been told the truth and the lack of credibility on the part of the government closes the venues for solutions that would eliminate privileges and abuses.

In view of this, Molirena reiterates its opposition to imposing new taxes and demands implementation of a truly austere fiscal policy. At the same time, it denounces maneuvers aimed at creating the impression that we are facing chaos if the fiscal measures recommended by the government are not approved.

[Signed] Molirena Board of Directors; Alfredo Ramirez, president; Guillermo Casco Arias, secretary general

COSTA RICA

URBINA LARA'S RESIDENCY, POSSIBLE ACTIVITIES

Urbina Announces Plans

PA072113 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 1830 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Excerpts] Nicaraguan youth Jose Manuel Urbina Lara, who caused a serious diplomatic incident between Costa Rica and Nicaragua, said in Bogota that he plans to reside in Costa Rica, from here he will struggle politically against the Managua regime.

Urbina Lara said shortly after arriving in Bogota that Commander Tomas Borge and Nobel Peace Prize winner Perez Esquivel offered him 100,000 cordobas to give up his right to asylum. Urbina has not said when or how he plans to travel to Costa Rica from Bogota, Colombia.

Monge Sets Conditions on Asylum

PA080340 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0115 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Text] Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez has asserted that the government will not be able to grant asylum to Urbina Lara. The Costa Rican Government will not grant political asylum to Nicaraguan Jose Manuel Urbina Lara because he would come here to join the ranks of Commander Eden Pastora. The decision was adopted after it was learned that Urbina Lara and Pastora held a dialogue over a Colombian radio network.

The situation was reviewed by Foreign Minister Gutierrez, Vice President Armando Arauz, and President Luis Alberto Monge. Ubina's decision to come to Costa Rica to join Pastora's forces changes the possibility of Costa Rica granting him asylum, Foreign Minister Gutierrez said. Under these circumstances, Costa Rica would not be able to receive Urbina Lara. He would create difficulties for our country because he would not comply with the obligations of a political refugee, Gutierrez added.

The foreign minister said that he had also discussed this matter with [Colombian] Foreign Minister Augusto Ramirez Ocampo, adding that he expects to have the fundamental portions of Urbina's statements tomorrow.

Referring to Urbina Lara's release, President Monge said that he did not want to turn such a momentous and important event into an occasion or reason for bragging by himself or the government. However, he stressed that from the standpoint of the right to asylum, this is a resounding victory that consolidates this humanitarian principle, which has been so deeply rooted in the conscience of the Costa Rican people throughout their history. Monge added that this entails an affirmation of inter-American international law, as it is within this framework that the right to asylum has had strength.

The life of a human being is a matter we cannot ignore, Monge said. For the Costa Rican Government, the life and freedom of a human being, regardless of his position or rank, is a transcending matter we cannot ignore, the president said. He reiterated that Urbina's release is a victory for inter-American law and for the principle of the right to asylum, which is very dear to and cherished by the Costa Rican people.

Asked if it is true that Urbina Lara has asked for permission to reside in Costa Rica, President Monge said that no letter or request to live in Costa Rica has been received from him. If he asks for asylum and expresses a desire to live in Costa Rica, we will grant it, provided he does not become involved in military actions or take up a weapon.

The president described the Contadora Group's temporary paralyzation as an accident caused by the Nicaraguan Government's failure to return Urbina Lara, but said that the group can now resume its peace efforts in the region. However, Monge said that it cannot be asserted that the Contadora Group will be able to finalize its work because the situation in Central America is quite complicated.

GUTIERREZ ON 'DELICATE' ISSUES WITH MEXICO

PA070346 San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 27 Feb 85 p 4

[Text] Foreign Minister Carlos J. Gutierrez, who celebrated his 58th birthday yesterday with a party at the Foreign Ministry, declared that "Mexico is not exerting pressure of any type on Costa Rica." Gutierrez pointed out that "Mexico, true to its principles, has not exerted any pressure on the Costa Rican Government."

He admitted that there are three delicate matters that remain to be settled between Mexico and Costa Rica, but that there is no action by the Mexican Government which could be interpreted as pressure.

The three important issues are: the oil agreement, the so-called "bridge" loan, and the matter of the PEMEX oil explorations.

"It is true," the foreign minister said, "that a sector of the Mexican press is engaged in a new campaign against Costa Rica, but that should not be taken as a campaign by that country's government."

PIZA, CAMPOS ON SECURITY MINISTRY REORGANIZATION

PA070005 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] At a meeting yesterday afternoon with the public security commanders, the public security minister announced the details of the ministry's reorganization. Minister Benjamin Piza said that since he became public security minister he has considered reorganizing the ministry to increase efficiency. The reorganization plan has been in effect for the past week and it is expected that with time, this plan, which seeks to guarantee greater security in the country, will also be improved.

Explaining the characteristics of the reorganization, Deputy Minister Johnny Campos said operations will be conducted on the basis of two large divisions: administrative and the public force. The coordinator of the administrative division will be senior official Francisco Tacsan Lam. This area will be concerned with administrative, financial, and accounting support.

As for the public force, Colonel Oscar Vidal has been appointed its director. The metropolitan police, the crime prevention unit, the civil police, and the public force academy will come under his coordination.

According to Minister Campos, these measures seek to bolster the [words indistinct] that is, those of the state, the citizens and the national territory.

There will also be greater flexibility with regard to vigilance tasks; and resources, which in the past were channeled separately, will be saved. The existence of a unified command will facilitate coordination of the police forces, thus benefiting the people, the deputy minister added.

For his part, public force Director Vidal has indicated that efforts to improve vigilance will be made utilizing the ministry's current resources. In the metropolitan area, vigilance will be handled by motorized units and agents on foot. In the more remote areas, work will be coordinated by the police stations and members of the public force reserve.

GOVERNMENT SETS TEMPORARY RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS

PA070336 San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 28 Feb 85 p 4

[Text] The government has decided to regulate the legal status of foreigners and announced that anyone residing in the country with an irregular immigration situation can obtain temporary residency. To receive this residency, the government has established five conditions: proof of identity with a national or foreign document issued by the correct authority, proof that the person entered the country prior to 1 March 1983, proof of good conduct as certified in a public document issued by the pertinent authority, five passport photocopies, and the completion of a census form.

In the special cases persons who are Nicaraguan and Panamanian citizens by birth, the Immigration and Foreign Directorate can substitute for the presentation of the three documents, but these persons must meet the requirements regarding passport photocopies and the census form. In a decree issued on this regulation and published in the official newspaper, it was established that those foreigners who entered the country in transit will not be able to apply for this benefit.

Meanwhile, foreigners who met the census requirement established in the 1984 decree will receive a residency visa, except for those who entered the country in transit.

EL SALVADOR

COPREFA CHIEF CIENFUEGOS ASSASSINATED 7 MARCH

PA071936 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1928 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] Attention: We have a duly confirmed report. We have learned that Colonel Ricardo Cienfuegos, chief of the Armed Forces Press Committee [Coprefa], was assassinated a few moments ago at the International Sports Club installation while playing tennis. We repeat: We have learned from reliable sources that Coprefa chief Col Cienfuegos was assassinated at noon at the International Sports Club installation.

FPL Claims Responsibility

PA072104 Paris AFP in Spanish 2029 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] San Salvador, 7 Mar (AFP) -- The People's Liberation Forces, FPL, guerrilla organization this afternoon claimed responsibility for the murder of Coprefa Director Col Ricardo Aristides Cienfuegos, at 1300 local time [1900 GMT], according to official sources.

The perpetrators of the shooting left a red flag with the initials FPL, member of the FMLN, at the site, the International Sports Club installation, and escaped before anyone could stop them, according to the report. Coprefa confirmed the murder this afternoon but has not issued an official communique. Meanwhile, several helicopters are hovering over the capital's western area, where the sports installation is located and where Col Cienfuegos' corpse lies, riddled with bullets, waiting for a judicial inspection before being transferred to the Armed Forces funeral home.

Coprefa Issues Communique

PA072133 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 2040 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Communique issued by Coprefa in San Salvador on 7 March; read by unidentified Coprefa spokesman]

[Text] Lieutenant Colonel Ricardo Aristides Cienfuegos, director of Coprefa, was murdered today at noon by terrorists at the installation of the International Sports Club in this capital. The death of Lt Col Cienfuegos has placed his name on the list of Armed Forces heroes who have given their lives to achieve peace for our long-suffering people. The only reason that the terrorist hordes had to perpetrate this vile murder was that Lt Col Cienfuegos always struggled to report the true facts concerning these groups' criminal activities, which has led to the increased shedding of Salvadoran people's blood. Given the FMLN rebel squadrons' inability to counter the work so efficiently carried out by Lt Col Cienfuegos, they decided to assassinate him in cold blood, while he was unarmed and engaged in a sports activity. Lt Col Cienfuegos' sacrifice was not in vain because, although we are in mourning, our efforts to defeat the leftists and continue on the road to democracy have not ended. Coprefa condemns these types of murders and denounces them at international organizations which defend human rights, because the only weapons used by this press department are pen, paper, cameras, and our decision to report the truth to all peoples in the world, since this was Lt Col Ricardo Aristides Cienfuegos' goal.

COL YANEZ CALLS CORRUPTION CHARGES TERRORIST PLOY

PA071648 San Salvador Radio Cadena Sonora in Spanish 1200 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Colonel Julio Cesar Yanez has denied the charges of corruption lodged against him and reported by a local newspaper. The Salvadoran Defense Ministry has endorsed Col Yanez' stance and asked for evidence to sustain the charges. Col Yanez, commander of the Army 6th Brigade at Usulutan until 28 February, told this reporter that tomorrow he will present a formal rebuttal before the court.

[Begin recording] The news item that I read to you has maliciously misinterpreted my transfer. I intend to look into the matter to clarify it. My transfer is for administrative reasons, a routine change of command. There is nothing mysterious about the transfer. Regarding the charges, I want to point out that the funds to which the article refers are handled exclusively by the U.S. Agency for International Development and the direct recipients of the funds. No commander is authorized to handle any of these funds, nor does he do so. Therefore, the report makes no sense. I have dismissed this situation as unimportant because I suspect it is part of a drive launched by terrorists to discredit the Armed Forces and myself. In view of their failure to discredit our unit militarily, they have opted for another tactic. As to my response to the charges, I reject and emphatically deny them. Moreover, I challenge the person who produced this report to bring forth evidence to support it. I will present formal charges against the reporter who wrote the item tomorrow. [end recording]

GUERRILLAS ATTACK MUNICIPAL, ANTEL OFFICES

PA080052 San Salvador Radio Cadena Sonora in Spanish 1530 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Report by Jose de la Paz Navarro from San Francisco Gotera, Morazan Department]

[Text] A group of heavily armed rebels set fire to the Osicala municipal building and the National Telecommunications Associations [ANTEL] office at 2230 last night. The town, the second most important urban center in Morazan Department, has been without power since Sunday and is also without military surveillance. Taking advantage of the situation, some 200 FMLN rebels entered the town, harassed residents, and moved toward the old municipal building, setting fire to all files, office equipment, furniture, and the building, which was reduced to rubble in several minutes. The rebels also set fire to the town's ANTEL office and burned its office furniture.

During their actions the rebels asserted that they disagreed with the upcoming elections. They then proceeded to take incumbent Nationalist Republican Alliance [ARENA] Mayor Emilio Villalta and three other individuals captive. Eyewitnesses say that Salomon Guevara, another candidtate for mayor and also of ARENA, was among those taken. The identities of the others could not be established due to the darkness.

ARMY VIEWS GUERRILLA ATTACKS AS SIGN OF WEAKNESS

PA070221 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 6 Mar 85 pp 2, 28

[Text] Six mayors' offices were bombed by terrorists during the past few hours in Morazan, Usulutan, La Union, and Cabanas Departments.

In addition, the terrorists destroyed ANTEL offices in several of the affected towns.

The mayors' offices that were bombed are those in Alegria and Santa Elena in Usulutan, Yamabal and Sociedad in Morazan, Yucuaiquin in La Union, and Tejutepeque in Cabanas.

According to reports, the terrorists took advantage of the towns' isolation to place the bombs in the municipal buildings and some ANTEL offices, which they completely destroyed.

The terrorists said that in some places they are destroying the municipal buildings to destroy the files and deprive the inhabitants of documents necessary to vote in the next elections which, they said, "will be a farce."

They announced that a new nationwide driving ban will be issued soon.

Armed Forces members said that these attacks constitute signs of weakness on the part of the terrorists and asserted that those who perpetrate these attacks are but a few, supported by peasants they abduct in order to help them loot the towns. They said that the Army constantly harasses the terrorists, who cannot put up a resistance, loot, or destroy sources of employment when they flee.

However, the terrorists claim that the bombs they placed in the mayors' offices and ANTEL branches are part of their efforts to enhance the power of the Salvadoran people. This is stated in their communique.

NICARAGUA

COMMUNIQUE ALLEGES CRUZ INVOLVEMENT IN CIA PLOT

PA072319 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2135 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Communique issued by the Interior Ministry's Public Relations Directorate on 7 March in Managua]

[Text] The Interior Ministry informs the Nicaraguan people that state security organizations have revealed a U.S. CIA plan which includes the following objectives:

A. To undermine the credibility of the Nicaraguan peace proposals.

B. To hinder the peace negotiations carried out within the framework of the Contadora Group.

C. To influence U.S. public opinion and the Congress to provide funding for the counterrevolution, creating the image that Nicaragua is opposed to a peaceful and negotiated solution to the Central American conflict.

D. To give the Nicaraguan Democratic Force [FDN] the status of an internal political force, denying its counterrevolutionary and mercenary armed forces character.

The central aspects of this plan, which utilizes Mr Arturo Cruz for provocative purposes, are as follows:

1. Mr Arturo Cruz, former president of the Nicaraguan Coordinating Board, visited the FDN's main mercenary base, Las Vegas, in El Paraiso Department in Honduran territory on 24 and 25 February. At this camp he was presented to the counterrevolutionary military units by CIA agent Adolfo Calero and former National Guard Colonel Enrique Bermudez. The welcoming speech was made by former National Guardsman (Manuel Rugama Aureliano), who has perpetrated many crimes in Jinotega Department, among them the murder of German Dr (Albert Plumb).

In his speech before the FDN mercenaries, retransmitted by the contra radio station 15 September on 2 March at 1200, Arturo Cruz openly expressed his counterrevolutionary affiliations and said, among other things: Thank you very much, Commander; I do not have your heroism. I greet you with humility, respect, devotion, and deep affection. You, he said, referring to the FDN mercenaries, who are young and are (?liberating) must remember this: Contadora is failing, and only by defeating Sandinist communism can there be democracy in Nicaragua. We are giving them an ultimatum for the liberation of all national guardsmen.

Prior to this, in February, a counterrevolutionary group coordinated by CIA liaison officer Tomas Castillo met in Miami. As a result of this meeting, a communique, which was published on 2 March in San Jose, Costa Rica, was issued urging the Sandinist people's revolution to release the former national guardsmen, dissolve the Constituent Assembly and the Sandinist Defense Committees, and reduce the size of the Sandinist People's Army and the Interior Ministry. The communique gave 20 March of this year as the deadline for the fulfillment of these demands. The document was signed by Adolfo Calero, Indalecio Rodriguez, Arturo Cruz, Alfonso Robelo, Steadman Fagoth, Fernando Aguero, Pedro Joaquin Chamorro Barrios, and Ulises Fonseca Talavera, among others.

Regarding this ultimatum, Arturo Cruz was presented in an interview broadcast on 5 March by counterrevolutionary station Radio Impacto of Costa Rica, saying: If this call is not heeded, our fighters in the armed struggle will have the last word.

3. [as heard] At this meeting, Arturo Cruz was delegated to travel to Nicaragua to involve the Episcopal Conference in this plan as mediator in the dialogue, which they demand be established between the counterrevolution and the Sandinist people's revolution so that the latter will agree to the points stated earlier.

4. Cruz' return to Nicaragua is based upon the CIA's expectations that he will be arrested upon arrival in the country because of his publicized counterrevolutionary affiliations, which they have stressed. A simultaneous international campaign would then be unleashed and orchestrated to show the Sandinist dictatorship arresting a democrat like Mr Cruz. In the event the Nicaraguan Government does not take any penal action, the CIA [4-second break in transmission] our intelligence service after Mr Cruz spoke or attempted to do so with an Episcopal Conference representative, would make an attempt against Mr Cruz' life. This attempt would immediately be attributed to the Sandinist people's revolution, thus discrediting the revolution on an international level.

2. [as heard] The Interior Ministry makes public the plans to use Mr Cruz to fabricate a new pretext that would affect the climate of political solution, which has been made possible in the region with the latest Nicaraguan Government peace proposals.

[Signed] Public Relations Directorate, Interior Ministry

Managua, 7 March

COURT OFFICIAL ON CONTADORA, ORTEGA PROPOSAL

PA071515 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] Dr Vilma Nunez de Escorcia, vice president of the Supreme Court of Justice, discusses some aspects of the Contadora Document:

[Begin recording] We can say that the Contadora Document's 21 items cover three different aspects: economic, political, and military. Regarding the military aspect, I consider as fundamental the banning of the installation of military bases in the area, the departure of military advisers, and arms control to establish a regional balance. It is regarding these three military aspects, however, that the United States is most reluctant. Hence, the Contadora Document is an obstacle to U.S. interventionist plans in the area.

The United States has turned Honduras into a U.S. military base to attack our people. There also is the Palmerola Air Force Base.

Furthermore, our government, unilaterally and in all sovereignty, has begun to demonstrat its support for the Contadora effort through President Daniel Ortega's most recen proposal" to withdraw 100 military advisers and stop all arms purchases. [end rec ng]

PPSC LEADER SAYS INITIATIVES SHOW 'GOOD INTENTIONS'

PA062335 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] Mauricio Diaz Davila, secretary general of the Popular Social Christian Party [PPSC], believes that the unilateral initiative issued by the Nicaraguan Government on 27 February should be seriously considered by the U.S. Government. Diaz Davila said that Nicaragua's position clearly shows its political willingness to preserve peace in the region.

[Begin recording] We think that the peace initiatives emerge within an extremely tense and conflictive regional situation, one in which the U.S. Administration has already expressed its desire to militarily resolve the problems in the region, especially those dealing with Nicaragua. We think that these peace initiatives should have been issued some time ago so that one would not have to grant too many concessions or present initiatives from a weak position. We believe these initiatives should be closely linked to the peace efforts that all political parties, essentially the parties represented in the Assembly, have been carrying out.

It is obvious that if one analyzes the content and scope of the initiatives, one reaches the conclusion that they have been drawn up with many good intentions. The proposals to permit the visit of a bipartisan commission from the U.S. Congress and to withdraw foreign military advisers are measures that should be seriously considered by the U.S. Administration. However, we think that the U.S. Administration already has a closed mind regarding Nicaragua and that it does not seriously consider these proposals because it has the defined, clear objective of promoting the sectors that oppose the revolution inside and outside the country. [end recording]

COMMISSION SOLVES PRIESTS' IMMIGRATION PROBLEMS

PA070328 Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish 1200 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] A commission formed by government and church representatives has solved the immigration problem of 300 foreign priests who have been living in Nicaragua for more than 2 years.

Rodrigo Reyes, one of the government representatives, reported that the priests faced a very difficult situation and that their continued residence in the country had become complicated for various reasons. He added that the problem has been resolved. He also said that the status of the priests and churchmen who have been living in Nicaragua for less than 2 years will be considered at a later meeting of the two parties.

GUERRILLA ACTIVITIES SPUR PLYWOOD FACTORY SHUTDOWN

PA071343 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 5 Mar 85 p 5

[Text] Moises Leiva, secretary general of the Francisco Samper Union and production manager for the plywood factory, told BARRICADA that counterrevolutionary terrorism in the timberlands of Rio Blanco has caused the temporary shutdown of the plywood factory because the unavailability of the raw materials has affected the production.

The factory was closed today and is expected to remain closed for the next 2 months. Meanwhile, the factory workers can work at the Victoria de Julio sugar mill or at the Metasa or Cotecma factories located in the area of Tipitapa.

Yesterday an employee meeting was held, during which job alternatives, negotiated by the plywood officials and the union, were presented. Talks are still under way to guarantee the wages or to offer complementary measures if they are decreased.

Meanwhile, the union proposed to the administration that the vacant positions be guaranteed to the workers upon their return, respecting their seniority as established in the group agreement.

In the timberlands in Wasayamba, Rio Blanco, the fighting increased following an offensive launched by the Sandinist People's Army [EPS] to dislodge the mercenaries. The production manager said that this paralyzed logging operations.

However, logging efforts are beginning in other regions of the country. In war zones this activity must be coordinated with the EPS in order to protect the lives of workers and equipment. This hinders the work of the logging brigades.

The production manager also stated that the subsidy for the worker's commisary will continue and that the administration has consented to resolve the social problems that may occur following the temporary shutdown of the factory.

The secretary general of the union criticized the slowness of the administrative directorate in adopting measures taking into account the unavailability of timber. According to the secretary general, the company and People's Forestry Corporation, the Construction Ministry, and the Sandinist Central Organization of Workers, had already discussed the difficulties the war presented for logging in the area.

CRUZ SAYS ALLEGED CIA MURDER PLOT 'RIDICULOUS'

PA081415 Paris AFP in Spanish 0436 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Text] San Jose, 7 Mar (AFP) -- Nicaraguan opposition leader Arturo Cruz branded as "ridiculous" the report by the Sandinist government that the CIA plans to attack him as he arrived in Nicaragua.

Cruz, in statements to Costa Rican television at the country's international airport, discredited the reasons for not allowing him to enter Nicaragua, after the government banned the airlines from carrying the politician to Managua.

"I am not really an international politician," Cruz pointed out, and because of this, he does not believe he is "a target for murder."

Cruz intended to fly to Nicaragua tonight to deliver his ultimatum to Sandinism, containing a proposal from the anti-Sandinist groups to start a "national dialogue" no later than 20 March.

However, he was informed at the airport by officials of the Panamanian Aviation Company airline that he could not board the plane to Managua on instructions from Nicaraguan immigration authorities.

The Nicaraguan Government claimed today that the CIA planned to murder Cruz in order "to fabricate new pretexts to undermine the climate of political solutions in the Central American region."

URBINA DISCUSSES ACTIVITIES, FUTURE WITH PASTORA

PA071656 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1234 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Telephone conversation among Jose Manuel Urbina Lara, Nicaraguan refugee, an unidentified CARACOL reporter in Bogota, and Eden Pastora, leader of the Nicaraguan Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, in an unidentified location; broadcast in progress -- live]

[Excerpts] [Reporter] ...Work especially on the Honduran-Nicaraguan border and fight the current Sandinist regime headed by Daniel Ortega. Since you are the commander, Mr Pastora, tell us what the military situation is between those who fight against the Sandinist government and those forces that support the government.

[Pastora] First of all, we are in southern, eastern, and central Nicaragua. We are not in the north. Second, we are the Sandinists and those in Managua are just the opposite of Sandinists. They are Marxist-Leninists. Based on our positions, we fought against the extreme right-wing Somozist dictatorship in the past and are now fighting against the extreme left-wing dictatorship of Marxism-Leninism disguised as Sandinism. We have been maintaining nationalist and independent positions and this has caused us to sacrifice much. We are fighting over an area of 33,000 square km. We have liberated 10,000 square km. (?We have) 10,000 men, 3,000 of them unarmed and 7,000 armed. We are fighting a guerrilla war with limited resources. We are blocked by everyone who does not understand that we are centrists.

[Reporter] Commander, what response do you get from the Nicaraguan population?

[Pastora] Support from all the Nicaraguan population has enabled us to exist without backing from anyone. We have not received a rifle or bullet from anyone. For more than a year now, no government, party, or organization that calls itself democratic has helped us. We have existed on the support of the civilian population. The peasants who give us their beans, cassava, and corn help us to survive, and we grow as we recover weapons and ammunition from the enemy.

[Reporter] What is your opinion of the Urbina case? If you do not yet have the international reports, we can tell you that Urbina is in a Bogota hotel and is trying to decide where he will go. What do you think of the Urbina case?

[Pastora] I am well acquainted with the Urbina Lara case. He is a companero member of ARDE. He is a member of one of the organizations of this alliance. He is a member of the Sandino Revolutionary Front that we founded. Urbina Lara sought asylm because of communist persecution that began when they found out that he was a member of our organization, ARDE. He took asylum and the communists who do not respect any international agreements removed him by the force of bullets. I am well aware of the case. Costa Rica demanded that the right of asylum be respected. The communist Nicaragua Government did not want to turn him over to Costa Rica after Costa Rica demanded respect for international agreements. Nicaragua turned him over to Colombia. We would prefer that he be turned over to his organization in southern Nicaragua. That is up to him. We congratulate him. We respect him. We send true revolutionary Sandinist greetings to Campanero Urbina Lara. We hope that he is, listening to us and that he will call us so we can speak with him. If he is listening, we tell him to ask that he be sent to southern Nicaragua through the Costa Rican Government, so he can rejoin his comrades and struggle to fulfill his duty as an independent and patriotic Sandinist revolutionary.

[Reporter] Student Urbina Lara said a few hours ago in Bogota that he plans to return to Nicaragua to join your group and continue to fight the Sandinists.

[Pastora] He is a great patriot. That is what his revolutionary conscience dictates to him and that is what he must do as a good Nicaraguan. All his companeros are waiting for him with open arms.

[Reporter] Are you and the ARDE members who fight the Daniel Ortega government supported by the CIA?

[Pastora] For more than a year everyone has known that our economic situation is critical. If we had been supported by the CIA, the electricity in the homes of our companeros of the rearguard would not have been cut off. If we had been supported by the CIA, we would not be sick, without clothing, barefoot, and fighting with little ammunition. If we had been supported by the CIA, our helicopters, planes, and supplies would not have been stolen. If we had been supported by the CIA, we would already have Managua under siege and we would be negotiating the capitulation of power with the communists. We are supported by our people. you have to ask that question of other organizations. We are alone. We maintain independent positions which have caused us to have problems with the U.S. CIA. We are nationalists, Sandinists, and revolutionaries, and this annoys sectors of the CIA.

[Reporter] Commander Pastora, why do you say that the helicopters and supplies were stolen? What happened?

[Pastora] We had three helicopters that were given to us by Cubans in Miami. We had some planes that Cuban exile groups had given us unconditionally. They paid off the pilots and the aviation personnel to get them. They got them and now they are hidden in northern Costa Rica. Helicopters and airplanes that belong to the 7,000 fighting men of southern and eastern Nicaragua are now being held by the Nicaraguan Democratic Force. We want them back because those aircraft do not belong to Mr Robelo, Mr Calero, Eden Pastora, or anyone. They belong to the 7,000 men who are fighting in southern and eastern Nicaragua. They do not belong to the 7,000 fighting in the north. We obtained those aircraft for ARDE. Calero has [words indistinct] a C-47 plane and the helicopter hidden. We are going to continue to demand those aircraft because they belong to us, even if they kill us. That is our way. This is our [word indistinct] and we will defend our [word indistinct].

[Reporter] You said a moment ago that you wanted to speak with Jose Manuel Urbina Lara. Well, the CARACOL network has contacted him and we have Jose Manuel Urbina Lara on the line. Jose Manuel, do you want to talk with Commander Eden Pastora?

[Urbina Lara] Yes.

[Reporter] Go ahead, Eden Pastora.

[Pastora] Jose Manuel, how are you, brother? I am very pleased to talk to you. Congratulations; you have acted as a true Sandinist and a patriot. You are the pride of our people. Brother, how are you?

[Urbina] Greetings to you and I hope that your forces will continue to advance. I hope that I will soon be able to join.

[Pastora] These are your forces, brother. These are the forces of the people. We continue onward, slowly but surely because we have powerful enemies.

We are waiting for you. Ask the Colombian Government to give you the visa so you can come join us. We are waiting for you with open arms. All the companeros are interested in your future.

[Urbina Lara] [Words indistinct]

[Pastora] Go to Costa Rica and contact the political organization. Jot down the telephone number I am going to give you. Jot down 32-25-06. Jose Manuel, can you hear me?

[Urbina Lara] I'm getting a pencil.

[Pastora] Jot down 32-23-06. Ask for Jose Davila. Identify yourself. Listen to me. Call that number so that they will meet you at the airport. That is the political commission of ARDE.

[Reporter] Can student Urbina Lara tell Commander Pastora how he came to seek asylum?

[Urbina Lara] Commander, as you know I was in the interal ranks of ARDE [passage indistinct]. The State Security removed me from the embassy by force. There were bribes, blackmail, pressures, and torture from those two-bit commanders so that I would renounce asylum. This is something that a Sandinist does not do. Are you listening, Commander?

[Pastora] Loud and clear. Tomas [Borge] and someone else offered you 100,000 cordobas?

[Urbina Lara] Yes, 100,000 cordobas, my immediate release, attendance at the fourth year of law school, and the promise that the State Security would not bother me.

[Pastora] I tell you, brother, that over here, 250 youths from the obligatory military service have crossed through the Bluefields area. We have turned them over to the International Red Cross because we do not have enough rifles or boots. We are trying to obtain them. At this time, 400 from the obligatory military service have just passed through here. We are also going to turn them over to the International Red Cross on the Costa Rican border. Massive numbers are joining us. We are only accepting those with weapons because we do not have weapons to give them. The people support us. You do not know how happy I am to talk to you. You are a hero, brother. All the companeros are waiting for you with open arms. Receive fraternal revolutionary Sandinist greetings. I must tell you that they hit us in the Rivas internal resistance cell. Only two companeros fell. It was a hard blow but since you know we operate on the basis of cells, they were unable to follow the chain. The henchman, Commander Lenin Cerna, went to deal with the situation in Rivas because the chief of police was our main contact and he was captured. I think they killed him because you know how the communists are. That is all that I can tell you. We are moving forward as always. So call that telephone number. Receive everyone's greetings of free fatherland or kill. You know we changed our slogan of free fatherland or death because we do not want to die. We want to kill the foreign invader, the national servants, those who betray us, those who change the ideals of General Sandino for those of Karl Marx and Vladimir Ilich Lenin. The people are oppressed but we are going to break the chains as we broke the Somozist chains. We will break the communist chains. Well, Jose Manuel, greetings and so long.

PASTORA REFUSES AID 'CONTROLLED' BY WASHINGTON

PA071505 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] Union City, New Jersey -- Nicaraguan rebel leader Eden Pastora, who is visiting Hispanic communities in the United States on a fund-raising tour, said yesterday that he will not accept aid from that country if it is controlled by Washington.

Pastora, also known as Commander Cero, said during a press conference in Union City, New Jersey, that he might be pressured to join the Nicaraguan Democratic Force.

CDN CALLS FOR DIALOGUE, OUTLINES CONDITIONS

PA071920 San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 27 Feb 85 p 16 A

[Proposal submitted to the Nicaraguan Government by the Ramiro Sacasa Guerrero Democratic Coordinating Board (CDN) on 22 February]

[Text] The Democratic Coordinating Board reports to the Nicaraguan people and the peoples of the world that:

The situation in the country is deteriorating every day and reaching very desperate levels. The people must tolerate low wages and shortages of foodstuffs, jobs, medicine, gasoline, spark plugs, toilet paper, toothpaste, spare parts, and so forth. The people are suffering because their children are receiving Marxist-Leninist political indoctrination instead of an education. The people are suffering because youths are afraid that at any moment they will be forced into military service, something which they do not believe in, because it represents the interest of one party. This has led some youths to leave the country and others to join the armed resistance.

Just like the civil war that we lived through from 1978 to 1979, and that had its ultimate origin in the political intransigency of Somoza's dictatorship, the present civil war and most of the problems the Nicaraguan people are facing have their ultimate origin in the FSLN's intransigency. The FSLN has adopted a Marxist-Leninist plan and disregarded the original plan. The experience obtained from almost 6 years of the FSLN in power has proven thus far that the FSLN is not a liberation front. Instead, contrary to its name, it is a front of imposition and domination.

We learned that Commander Daniel Ortega, as president of the Republic, invited the productive sectors on Saturday, 16 February, to give their opinion on the new economic measures approved by the government.

The truth is, in respect to the people, the measures should have been discussed before being made official, not after. Despite this, Saturday's meeting could turn out to be significant and encouraging if it was called in good faith. The discussion with the government dealt primarily with the country's political situation. The recently approved economic measures were a secondary issue during the several hour-long meeting. However, Commander Ortega's invitation for everyone to freely express their views, the decision of those present to do so, and the respect shown by both parties opens the possibility of a long desired dialogue to solve the Nicaraguan problem at its roots.

We state absolutely that the problems in Nicaragua stem from the FSLN's desire to impose on the country a political, social, economic, moral, and human system that has failed throughout the world. That is why, for a solution to be real, it cannot be in the form of patches, of partial talks between the government and labor, not even between the government and the church, much less with foreign governments. There is a fundamental, overall solution that is a prerequisite to any partial agreement. This fundamental overall solution consists of reaching a consensus among all Nicaraguans on the political, social, economic, moral, and human structure of a new Nicaragua, based on democracy and freedom.

There is only one way to reach this consensus: a dialogue on the fundamental issues between the government and all Nicaraguan democratic sectors wherever they are. We know that the number of citizens who no longer believe in this civilized solution is increasing, because the previous attempts to hold a dialogue show that when the FSLN suggests a dialogue, it honestly has no desire to negotiate. Instead it wants to simulate a democratic government for the benefit of the international community. We still believe it is possible to hold an honest, sincere, and effective dialogue. An honorable, reliable way to hold it is to have the Nicaraguan Episcopal Conference call for, organize, and coordinate it because the conference's relationship with the people, their pains, and their hope for freedom has reinforced its moral authority. It has the full trust of all sectors.

We respectfully invite the Nicaraguan Episcopal Conference to call this dialogue, in which all Nicaraguan sectors should be represented, as soon as possible. We also request of the bishops that the dialogue they sponsor be attended by individuals who will guarantee the agreements reached on behalf of the Nicaraguan people by their presence.

The sincere desire to hold a dialogue should be demonstrated before anything else through suspension of all armed activities and lifting the state of emergency at a prudent time for the dialogue to yield results, and through a general amnesty decree and total and effective pardons, as well as absolute respect for freedom of expression, association, and meeting, in addition to full exercise of the rights of appeal and habeas corpus.

The anguish of the Nicaraguan people cannot be allowed to continue. For this reason, we believe the dialogue should be held as soon as possible with a deadline for reaching a peace agreement established to prevent the dialogue from becoming a simple means to solve a momentary situation.

Once more we urge the FSLN government not to permit the desperate economic situation that affects the Nicaraguan people's everyday life, as well as the lack of freedom, which the people are deprived of, to be used as a pretext to proclaim emergency measures that continually drag the country into irreversible situations. This contradicts the civil and political solutions that could take place if the dialogue, which all Nicaraguans hope will bring our country national conciliation, is approved and carried out.

It is the anguish, poverty, uncertainty, and frustration of the Nicaraguan people that is demanding the national dialogue. Let us listen to the people.

FDN FORCES PROCLAIM LOYALTY TO CALERO, BERMUDEZ

PA071628 San Jose LA PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 27 Feb 85 p 3

[Paid advertisement by the Nicaraguan Democratic Force [FDN] on 27 February in San Jose; capitalized passages published in boldface]

[Text] The 15,000 fighters of the FDN and their regional and task force commanders, during the first week of February proclaimed their loyalty and solidarity to Adolfo Calero Portocarrero, president and chief of the FDN Armed Forces, and to Enrique Bermudez Varela, commander of the strategic command.

The FDN is the primary and largest political-military organization fighting in the northern, central, and southern parts of Nicaragua against the Marxist-Leninist regime in Managua.

The text of the loyalty proclamation states:

STRATEGIC COMMAND, 7 February

The FDN regional and task force commanders, meeting in the mountains of northern Nicaragua on 6 February, PROCLAIM, in their own name and on behalf of the 15,000 men they command, their firm loyalty to COMMANDER IN CHIEF ADOLFO CALERO PORTOCARRERO, AND STRATEGIC COMMAND COMMANDER ENGINEER ENRIQUE BERMUDEZ VARELA, who have shaped the structure of the organization and transformed it into an effective and democratic force.

As members of this truly revolutionary movement, we are faithful witnesses of the sacrifice and the struggle our people have faced to liberate our fatherland, NICARAGUA.

Because of this, and on behalf of the 15,000 people whose desires join with each shot fired by a commando's rifle, we confront certain propagandist, antipatriotic, and sectarian campaigns carried out by persons incapable of any struggle for liberty in support of the Sandinist regime.

We want the organizers of those campaigns to know that we will not be the instruments of their political ambitions, which is one reason Nicaragua is in the midst of a fratricidal war.

We aspire to live in a fatherland with dignity, where persons occupy positions they deserve because of their knowledge and loyalty to NICARAGUA.

This is why we state our resolve in the struggle, our faith in God, and the unity that exists among the fighters of the FDN, UNTIL THE FINAL VICTORY.

FMC FOURTH CONGRESS CONTINUES IN HAVANA

Castro Attends Second Day

FL061948 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] The second day of sessions of the Fourth Congress or the Federation of Cuban Women [FMC], being held in this capital's Palace of Conventions, was marked by the attendance of Commander in Chief Fidel Castro. Vilma Espin, FMC president and alternate Politburo member, is chairing today's session, which focuses on the congress' main report.

The commander in chief took part in the discussions of the report during the morning session. He termed matters dealing with women's job opportunities as the topic to be examined most closely in this meeting. The main report will continue to be discussed during the afternoon session.

Underscores Need For Savings

FL072144 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1902 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] At the morning session of the Fourth FMC Congress, Commander in Chief Fidel Castro reiterated the necessity of increasing savings and resolving the problems which still exist in all sectors of the economy. He said the revolution has continued to gain experience and maturity and that because of this it can now completely dedicate itself to developing the economy.

During their statements, Havana city delegates to the fourth congress supported Fidel's statements on energy conservation as did the delegates from the eastern provinces, who proposed to increase the use of bio-gas in the mountainous regions.

The Cuban women's interest in participating in the work of saving was evident in all their statements, not only in the areas related to families, but by actively participating in committees at the work centers.

Lauds Health Achievements

FL080018 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro has emphasized that the achievements Cuba has made in health make it comparable with the best services in the world in the pediatrics field. Castro spoke at the opening of the third session of the Fourth FMC Congress, which is being held at the Palace of Conventions, and said that among the areas in which the revolution has made the most advances is the health sector. We have been able to extend throughout the country medical services to the children which are found comparable to those in any clinic in the world, said the president of the Councils of State and Ministers.

Urges Equality for Women

FL080050 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, president of the Councils of State and Ministers, presided over the morning session of the third work day of the Fourth FMC Congress. Before the congress plenary, Fidel underscored the significance of the items in the main document and said that a more persistent fight was needed in the matter of full equality for women.

In answer to the delegates' concern, the commander in chief said that it was necessary to eliminate double standards sometimes used to discriminate against women. He emphasized that parameters would not be used which differentiate between men and women, because this is a clear and palpable expression of moral discrimination against women.

After intense debates which took up the first part of the congress, the 1,300 delegates approved the central report. These Cuban women representatives approved presenting the 23d of August Award to those women who have carried out sustained, enthusiastic, and outstanding work in the building of socialism. Also approved were resolutions on domestic life, modification of statutes, cadres, health, family education and the new generation, cultural and technical training, sports, culture and recreation, and women's integration into the economy. Also approved was the thesis The Cuban Women: 25 Years of Revolution and the Candidate.

Jose Ramirez Cruz, president of the National Association of Small Farmers, gave a speech in which he emphasized the role of women, especially the female peasant's role. Defense Committees [CDR], extended greetings from the CDR masses, and Carlos Lange, secretary general of the Union of Young Communists, pointed to the useful presence of young women in various tasks of the revolution. Sandinist Commander Doris Tijerino, president of the Continental Front of Women Against Intervention in Latin America, gave a speech at the gathering and underscored the role of women in the struggle for peace.

The congress will end tomorrow at 2130 GMT at the Karl Marx Theater.

ANAP President Speaks

FL072040 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1917 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] Jose Ramirez Cruz, president of the National Association of Small Farmers [ANAP], gave a speech at the Fourth FMC Congress and underscored that Cuban women will always be able to count on the peasant's support. He said the development of the cooperative movement, which today has 50,000 members, has contributed to the results obtained in the integration of women into the economic and social life of the country. Ramirez Cruz emphasized women's participation in the movement within the cooperatives to achieve 100,000 hundredweight of food and vegetables this year. He ended up underscoring his conviction that both the FMC and the ANAP, as they have done up to this time, will complete with honor all the productive, ideological, and defense of the socialist fatherland tasks which the party and Castro have outlined for them.

Congress Emphasizes Competition

FL072016 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1932 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] At the end of the morning session of the third work day of the Fourth FMC Congress, the central report was approved unanimously. The document summarizes the work performed by Cuban women during 25 years of revolution and states the firm attitude of this great force in production and defense for the socialist fatherland.

Shortly before this, a proposal by Havana City was also unanimously passed. It grants a special award called the 23d of August to those FMC members who for 20 or 25 years have conducted meritorious work in the FMC.

As this session ended, emphasis was placed on the necessity of competition as the force behind all tasks in this organization and the importance of giving incentives to members who are outstanding in fulfilling their activities.

Congress Presents Resolutions

FL080058 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Excerpts] The Fourth FMC Congress continued meeting this afternoon. The afternoon session reported on several projected resolutions which included defense and the policy of teaching, selection, location, and training of cadres which was approved at the last congress, as well as a resolution on solidarity.

CASTRO RECEIVES FRENCH LABOR UNION OFFICIAL

PA030000 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 2 Mar 85

[Text] The top Cuban leader, Fidel Castro, received here in Havana, Henri Krasucki, secretary general of the General Confederation of Labor of France [CGT] and member of the Politburo of the French Communist Party. During the meeting, held in a friendly atmosphere, they discussed various international political and economic topics.

Roberto Vega, secretary general of the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions [CTC], also attended the meeting.

Official Comments

FL011250 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1204 GMT 1 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Henri Krasucki said during a press conference at the CTC's offices, our trip has been an exchange of experiences and opinions, both very useful for the two sides. The consolidation of cooperation between the CTC and the CGT will be proof of this. He added that Cuba today has a labor union organization which is strong and capable and that the CTC's political orientation has given results which can be described as spectacular, constituting an example for all Latin America and the world.

C.R. RODRIGUEZ MALMIERCA RECEIVES SFRY LEADER

FL071056 Havana Television in Spanish 0100 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, member of the Politburo and vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers, has received Mito Pejovski, member of the Federal Executive Council of the SFRY, who is leading his country's delegation to the fifth session of the intergovernmental commission that is currently being held in Havana.

Bilateral Relations Discussed

FL072020 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca has met at his office with Mr Mito Pejovski, member of the Federal Executive council of the SFRY. During the cordial meeting, aspects of the relations between the two countries and the international situation were discussed. Mito Pejovski is heading his country's delegation to the fifth meeting of the Cuban-Yugoslav intergovernmental comission for economic, scientific, and technical cooperation being held in Havana.

MALMIERCA AWARDED CSSR LIBERATION MEDAL

FL080206 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca today received the 40th Anniversary of the Liberation of Czechoslovakia Order. CSSR Ambassador to Cuba Milos Vojta presented the medal.

GDR MINISTERS CONDUCT TALKS WITH OFFICIALS

AU011321 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 28 Feb 85 p 2

[Text] Havana (ADN) -- On Wednesday in Havana Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, deputy chairman of the State Council and of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cuba, held talks with Herbert Weiz, member of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany [SED] Central Committee, deputy chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers and minister of science and technology, as well as Ernst Hoefner, GDR minister of finance. Proceeding from the decisions of the CEMA summit conference, problems related to strengthening of cooperation between the GDR and the Republic of Cuba in the scientific-technical and economic fields were discussed in a friendly atmosphere. GDR Ambassador Heinz Langer participated in the talks.

GDR's Schuerer on Talks

FL021256 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 2 Mar 85

[Text] We are highly satisfied, especially with our meeting with Fidel Castro, with the coordination of economic plans between the GDR and Buba, Gerhard Schuerer, candidate member of the SED Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the GDR's State Planning Commission, said. Shuerer said bilateral cooperation had reached a very high level and described as satisfactory talks held with Humberto Perez, president minister of the Central Planning Board, and Carlos Rafael Rodriquez.

UN OFFICIAL ARRIVES FOR INAUGURATION OF PLANT

FL080206 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Text] Arthur Brown, assistant secretary general of the United Nations Development Program, has arrived in Cuba to attend the inauguration of a multipurpose pilot plant which will produce 10 types of medicines basic to human health.

INCREASE REPORTED IN WEST EUROPEAN TOURISTS

FL050310 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] Cuba is now an attractive destination for tourism at the international level. A large number of travel agencies have already signed agreements with the National and International Tourist Enterprise and have increased the number of people they are sending to the country. One indication of this is the increasing number of flights from western Europe to the island. For example, during the winter season just ending, two weekly flights from Milan started in October, and later from Vienna and Rome two flights a week were also started. From Dusseldorf, there is a weekly flight with tourists from the FRG, Belgium, the Netherlands, and Iberia, has increased its flights to Cuba to three times a week.

DOMINICA

CHARLES ATTENDS WOMEN'S DAY EVENT IN CURACAO

FL071423 Bridgetown CANA in English 1835 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] Roseau, Dominica, March 6, CANA -- Dominica's Prime Minister Eugenia Charles left here today for a short visit to Curacao, the Foreign Affairs Department reported. Miss Charles, the Caribbean's lone female prime minister, will attend the International Women's Day celebration in the Dutch Caribbean island on Friday. The department said the invitation to Miss Charles was extended by the Netherlands Government. Miss Charles is due back home on Saturday.

GRENADA

GDLP MP'S CRITICIZE WITHDRAWAL OF U.S. TROOPS

FL071928 Bridgetown CANA in English 1705 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] St George's, Grenada, March 7, CANA -- Grenada's four opposition parliamentarians, citing national security reasons, have written the United States criticising its decision to withdraw remaining American forces here by mid-year. Opposition leader Marcel Peters and Senators Oliver Raeburn, Franklyn Philbert, and Albert Forsythe expressed grave concern and disapproval in a letter sent to the American Embassy here. The U.S. forces have been here since October 1983 when they intervened with Caribbean colleagues in bloody political disturbances which saw the ouster and execution of Marxist Prime Minister Maurice Bishop in a coup staged by hardliners. Three cabinet ministers and several other people were also killed. The operation paved the way for Grenada's return to democratic rule in general elections last December. The Marxist regime had seized power in a March 1979 coup.

We are forced to take this stand because of the political differences which still exist within our society and the possiblity of a recurrence of the incidents of March 13, 1979 and October 19, 1983, particularly in view of the fact that both personnel and equipment will be withdrawn, the letter said. The four are members of the newly launched Grenada Democratic Labour Party (GDLP), the country's official opposition.

Forsythe, meeting with reporters after the letter was handed to the American mission yesterday, said he and his colleagues were not convinced that Grenada would be a secure place without the American military presence. Forsythe pointed to the possibility of new violence, spearheaded by persons who were sent to Soviet bloc countries for military training by the ousted Marxist government. He said there was a possibility that these students could return fully trained in guerrilla tactics or as full soldiers to wage war. The mountainous nature of the island was ideal for such activities, he said.

Meanwhile, a senior United States Embassy official, reacting to a report in ex-Prime Minister Eric Gairy's GRENADA GUARDIAN newspaper, denied Washington was pressured by the government into withdrawing its forces from the island. Charge d'affaires, Roy Haverkamp, said the papers contention does not square with the facts. Since the rescue mission in October 1983, it has been the policy of all governments involved that when Grenada was in a position to assume responsibility for its security, the foreign police and military personnel, who had been invited to remain in Grenada, would depart, he said. No pressure to withdraw was brought on the U.S. Government or any other government. I hope these facts will lay to rest any misunderstanding about the long-standing policy to withdraw U.S. military personnel at the appropriate time without jeaopardising Grenada's security.

ENVOY TO HEAD ACP COMMITTEE OF AMBASSADORS

FL062152 Bridgetown CANA in English 1945 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, March 6, CANA -- Guyana has been elected to head the committee of ambassadors of the African, Caribbean, and Pacific (ACP) group of states, the Foreign Ministry said here today. The Brussels-based committee assists the council of ministers, the supreme organ of the 65 nation ACP group. Its functions include implementation of the Lome Convention and co-ordinating the activities of the ACP states, the ministry said.

Guyana's Ambassador Harold Sahadeo assumed chairmanship of the Committee of Ambassadors with effect from March 1, and will hold the office for six months, it added. The immediate responsibilities of the committee will be to make arrangements for the election of a new ACP secretary general and formulation of recommendations for strengthening the ACP Secretariat, a spokesman for the ministry told CANA. The committee is also expected to make preparations for the second special session of the ACP council of ministers to be held later this year.

GDR TO PROVIDE FARM MACHINERY, INSTRUCTION

FL071320 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] Guyana and East Germany have signed a new barter agreement which is designed to stimulate agricultural development in Guyana. Under the agreement, East Germany will ship tractors and harvesters and help rebuild a rice mill recently destroyed by fire. Guyanese workers will also be trained in applied science in East Germany. Guyana will send bauxite, rice, and alcohol in return for the East German assistance. The two countries are also set to undertake joint ventures in mining and farming. Senior representatives from the Guyanese and East German Governments signed the agreement in Georgetwon after 1 week of negotiations.

SUGAR INDUSTRY AFFECTED BY 3-DAY STRIKE

FL072021 Bridgetown CANA in English 1845 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, March 7, CANA -- Guyana's state-run sugar industry says it lost 329 grinding hours due to a recent three-day strike, but up to the end of last week had still achieved 90.8 per cent of its targetted 1985 production to that point. The Guyana Sugar Corporation (Guysuco) said it had produced 7,035 tons of sugar for that week, which was only nine per cent below projection. The crops total has moved to 44,450 tons of 90.8 per cent of the estimated at the weekend, Guysuco said.

The strike was called by the Guyana Agricultural and General Workers Union (GAWU), the National Association of Agricultural Commercial and Industrial Employees (Naacie), and the Guyana Field Foremen and Supervisors Union (GFFSU) to back demands for eight days pay as a production bonus. Guysuco said the industry achieved just over 241,000 tons of sugar last year, and under an agreement reached since 1978, eight days pay could only have been offered if the industry had achieved 300,000 tons. It said in addition to the annual production incentives, sugar workers continue to earn additional monthly incentives whenever the individual estates (there are 10 in Guyana) achieve their monthly targets.

Guysuco said at the end of the last monthly incentive period for the current crop that workers on five estates received incentives ranging from one to two days pay. At the week ending March 8, sugar workers would be eligible for their second monthly production incentive. The unions called off the strike to enable further discussion on the issue.